

V.F.W.

MAGAZINE

MAY • 1962



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Observation Post

By Bill Vaughan



The worst thing that can happen is to hit your first golf shot of the spring 250 yards down the center of the fairway. You'll go crazy the rest of the season trying to figure out what you did right.

The children have come across all the letters I wrote home when I was in the Army. They were impressed. They want to know how, along with all that writing, I found time to win the war.

A little while ago, a big international archery contest was won by Americans. So we should be in good shape if, as predicted, World War IV is fought with bows and arrows.

The boy next door has married and left home. "I know I'm gaining a daughter," his father says, "but I'm losing a yard man."

It's probably just as well that the Twist seems to be dying out. It would have been embarrassing to have the first visitors from Mars or Venus land here while it was at its height.

A radiation belt in outer space is named after Dr. James Van Allen. Up until now the only person we ever knew who had a belt named after him was the late Sam Browne.

Most songs that are popular with the troops in wartime are sweet, sentimental or silly. No soldier will have anything to do with things that are supposed to inspire him.

Good will should, of course, be our aim in international relations, but at times I'm almost ready to settle for just a little mediocre will.

While we are worrying about the wasting of our natural resources, couldn't we give some thought to how the high school drop-out rate is eroding the most valuable of them all?

When the real history of wars finally comes out, the amazing thing will be how either side could possibly have won.

You can live next door to a man for years and he won't mention the fact that he was a war hero. But if he gives up cigarettes for two days he'll rush over to brag about it.

True tolerance, I guess, is when you can stand to have somebody you dislike agree with you.

We are always told that international peace would be closer if only we understood other countries as well as we do our own. And we'll work on it, as soon as we finish trying to understand our own.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

VOL. 49

NO. 9

MAY, 1962

V.F.W. OBJECTIVES

To insure the national security through maximum military strength.
To speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
To assist the widows and orphans, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
To promote Americanism through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

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THE COVER



● Pert and pretty, the young Buddy Poppy salesgirl in Artist Fred Irvin's cover painting braves the muddy mire of a construction job to decorate a gang of hardy workers with the little V.F.W. flowers of remembrance. V.F.W. Buddy Poppies are facsimiles of those that grow in the Flanders Fields of World War I fame. Made by hospitalized veterans, they were first sold by the organization in 1922 to raise funds for V.F.W. relief and welfare projects. Every year since then, thousands of V.F.W. and Auxiliary workers appear on the streets of America to continue this worthy tradition and exemplify the V.F.W. motto, "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living". Besides bolstering veteran relief and rehabilitation funds, the money raised by the sale of Buddy Poppies also helps maintain the V.F.W. National Home, Eaton Rapids, Mich. Support the Buddy Poppy campaign in your community by volunteering your services as a salesman and donating generously.

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Official Monthly Publication of the

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

Book of Poetry Published By V.F.W. Leader

● V.F.W. Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry has long been recognized as a man of many talents. And now he has broadened his scope of accomplishments with the publication of a book of poems, "Voices of the Airways". The book is published by the Naylor Company, San Antonio, Texas.



Byron B. Gentry

"The author," say the publishers, "brings a freshness and a vitality to the American poet that has long been lacking. He is unafraid to express his deep self and dares to attack problems most modern writers shun. Descriptive writing is one of the hardest types to master; here is a volume containing some of the most moving pieces of modern poetry produced in this generation."

Gentry is presently serving as City Prosecutor of the City of Pasadena, Calif., a position he has held the past 11 years. He is a former football star, having played in two Rose Bowl games with the University of Southern California team and later playing professional football with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Of special interest to V.F.W. members will be the last section of his book which is entitled "The Spirit of the V.F.W.". In this article, Gentry clearly spells out his devotion to his organization by telling exactly what it means to him.

"Voices of the Airways" is priced at \$3.95 and can be ordered from local book stores or directly from: The Naylor Company, Book Publishers of the Southwest, San Antonio, Texas.



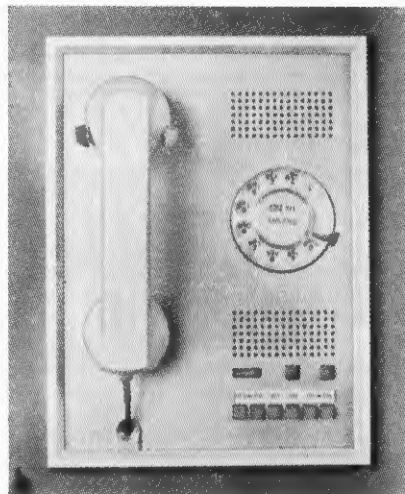
Souvenirs of the Nutmeg State were presented to Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph J. Lombardo (right), following his keynote address at the recent Mid-Winter Conference of the Dept. of Connecticut. Dept. Commander James L. Lusby is shown presenting the gifts—a hat manufactured by the Hat Corporation of America, Norwalk, Conn., and a pistol made into desk pen holder, a souvenir of the Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Co., Hartford. The conference, which had as its theme "Preparedness Through Strength," featured special programs and displays on civil defense.



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Go West Young Man

Allow me to be the umpteenth to say, "The Last Cruise of The Langley" (April V.F.W. Magazine) was very interesting. However, a ship going from the Gulf of Panama on the Pacific side of the canal at Balboa, to the Caribbean Sea port of Cristobal on the Atlantic side, actually ends up west of its starting point.—Louis P. Pushkarsky, Rte. 3, Trenton, Mo.

Editors Note: Reader Pushkarsky knows his geography. The Langley was the first U.S. Navy ship to pass through the Panama canal, Oct. 10, 1914, from Balboa to Cristobal. Pushkarsky has reference to a sentence which ends, "... the first vessel to pass through from west to east." The canal slices through the Isthmus of Panama from Balboa to Cristobal in a northwesterly direction.

Order out of Chaos

I would like to commend Walter M. Polard, V.F.W. Service Officer at the Montgomery, Ala., regional VA office. Complicating factors made my claim chaotic. After months of unremitting labor, Mr. Polard is bringing order out of that chaos. I urge all eligible veterans to join the V.F.W., for without it, there would be few veterans' rights or benefits.—Eddie H. Livingston, 310 Blackshear St., Dothan, Ala.

A Sharp Sword In A Strong Hand

World governments today scorn the olive branch and honor the sharpest sword in the strongest hand. "Speak softly, but carry a big stick," advice given by President Theodore Roosevelt, is about the best ever received by our country. Other nations would like to see the United States humbled because it is great, and not yet so demoralized it will not retaliate if international gangsters are foolish enough to

take the ultimate step. Let us lay the big stick on the table—right beside our money.—Charles Plybon, 1325 Drexmore Ave., Charlotte 9, N.C.

Better go to School

I have read much about jobs for persons past 40 years of age, but have been unable to find one for myself. Like thousands of other veterans, I found it impractical to pursue a higher education following the war because of family obligations. A back injury limits the kind of work I can perform and my lack of education is a severe employment handicap. For veterans past 40 in situations similar to mine, I have written the following verse:

Now each day, in search of work,
I hear them chant this rule,
'Too bad, Too sad, I'm sorry Dad,
You should have gone to school.'
—William A. McDaniel, 2329 S. 252nd St.,
Kent, Wash.

You're out of Uniform

I was astonished to see a Post Commander wearing a business suit while he administered the oath of obligation on the March cover of V.F.W. Magazine. It has been an uphill fight at this Post to get officers in uniform and the cover picture sets a bad example. Ya goofed!—Joe Pfannenstiel, Commander V.F.W. Post 501, 1819 Welton St., Denver, Colo.

Reservist Proud to Serve in Crisis

Reservists who were called to active duty to strengthen our nation at a time of crisis are merely making a small return for benefits enjoyed as U.S. citizens. We are giving of our time and efforts—and it pains us to be separated from our loved ones—but our mobilization helps to deter an aggressive enemy who would destroy all we hold dear. I, for one, am proud to serve.—M/Sgt. Richard V. Depkowski, AF-32608063, 108th Supply Sq., A.P.O. 119, New York, N.Y.

Not The First Time

I read of a Buffalo, N.Y., Post group going to Canada for ceremonies last Nov. 11, "for what is believed to be the first time in V.F.W. history." (Feb. V.F.W.



More than 1,000 persons attended the recent dedication ceremonies for the new \$50,000 home of Post 1645, Stoughton, Mass. Federal and state officials participated in the program as principal speakers. These included U.S. Senator Benjamin A. Smith, Congressman Joseph W. Martin, 14th District, Congressman James A. Burke, 13th District, and State Representatives Robert Hahn and Russell P. Hayden. Pictured at the new home examining an official program of the gala event are, left to right, Congressman Martin, Congressman Burke, Past Dept. Commander Emilio F. Marino, Post Commander Manuel J. Rodriguez and State Representative Hayden, a Past Commander of Post 1645.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE



Francis Gary Powers, (left) the controversial pilot of the U-2 reconnaissance plane who was recently returned from captivity by the Russians, receives a V.F.W. Citizenship Medal from Dept. of Virginia Senior Vice Commander E. K. Smith. The presentation took place during ceremonies welcoming Powers at his home in Big Stone Gap, Va. More than 800 persons attended the event.

Magazine) Our small V.F.W. Post 9779 at Calais, Maine, consists of 21 members. Our town is just across the border from St. Stephen, Canada. Since we founded the Post in 1948 we have been taking part in joint international ceremonies with the Canadian Legion of St. Stephen, including events on Nov. 11.—*Willis F. Clark, Service Officer, Post 9779, Calais, Maine.*

Lauds "Mountaineers of The A.E.F."

I enjoyed immensely, "The Mountaineers of the A.E.F.," by Herbert E. Smith, (April *V.F.W. Magazine*) especially the reference to the "Third (Marne) Division's crack 76th Field Artillery." I was a charter member of the 76th and served with it until hospitalized in March of 1919 while serving with the occupation forces.—*E. R. Crow, 1510 S. Kimbrough St., Springfield, Mo.*

Many Thanks

Many thanks to Commander-in-Chief Hansen and the V.F.W. for the vigorous program it presented to Congress for increasing service-connected disability pay to veterans.—*James G. Krisilas, 507 W. 170th St., New York 32, N.Y.*

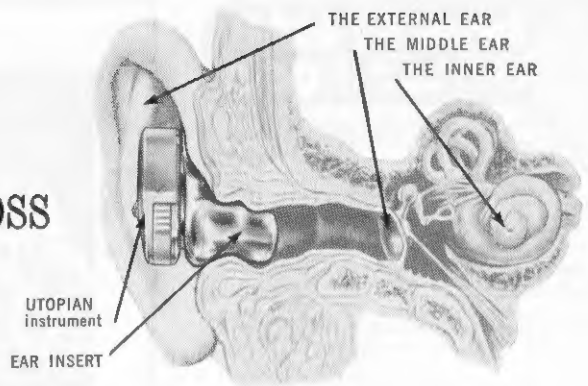
Fine Issue

The March issue of *V.F.W. Magazine* is the finest I ever remember receiving. Keep up the good work.—*Paul R. Mitchell, 311 -30th Ave., San Mateo, Calif.*

Spot Not Very Hot

Beginning Nov. 20, 1961, the Communist Party in the United States was supposed to have been put on the spot, but lately I have not heard of any Communists being prosecuted or convicted. I believe the program to run Communists underground should be pushed to the hilt, and that great organizations like the V.F.W. should get behind our government officials to achieve that end.—*George C. Klein, 3131 Vermont St., N.W., North Canton 20, Ohio.*

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BEFORE

AFTER



Members of the V.F.W. group that was instrumental in repatriating bodies of American soldiers killed in Russia in World War I, gather on the deck of the S.S. *President Roosevelt* in tribute to the returned dead. The bodies were returned in 1929. Placing a wreath in front of one casket is Past Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Wolman (1930-31).

1962 Reunion of "Polar Bears" Recalls Patriotic Deed of V.F.W. in 1929

THIS MONTH, in Detroit, Mich., on May 28-30, V.F.W. Polar Bear Post 436 will host the 21st biennial reunion of the Polar Bear Association, veterans who served in Siberia in 1918-19 with the famed "Polar Bear Expeditionary Army." These veterans, many of whom were members of Michigan's own 339th Infantry, have the distinction of being the first Americans to have engaged in combat with the Communists, then called "Bolsheviks."

One of the highlights of the reunion will be the memorial service at the Polar Bear Monument where more than 100 of the soldiers killed in this campaign are buried. Sixty of these honored dead rest here only as the direct result of efforts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Their bodies might otherwise still be buried in lonely, unkept graves in the far reaches of Northern Russia and Siberia. This is the story:

Ten years after the end of World War I, the bodies of more than 100 American soldiers of the so-called Polar Bear Expedition had not been recovered. It was impossible for the U.S. government to repatriate the bodies of these men because of the absence of diplomatic relations between this country and Russia.

Recognizing the opportunity to be of service, the V. F. W. volunteered to undertake the project in cooperation with an unofficial Russian agency. A special V.F.W. commission was selected, headed by Commander Russell H. Dutcher, Benjamin Franklin Post 605, Paris, France. Its job was to locate the graves of the Americans, identify the remains and arrange for transportation to the United States.

Through the work of the commission, the bodies of 86 American dead were recovered. Of these, 11 were buried in American cemeteries in France at the request of next of kin. The bodies of 75 of the men were returned to the United States aboard the S.S. *President Roosevelt*. The bodies of those members of Michigan's 339th-Infantry were placed aboard a special train at New York for the final stage of the long journey home.

In Detroit, V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief Hezekiah N. Duff officially conveyed to the state of Michigan the bodies of its dead. "We of the V.F.W. are proud to have participated in this labor of love," he said. "We are proud to have been of assistance to the Polar Bear Association and the state of Michigan."

About HUNTING AND FISHING

By Keith C. Schuyler

• Address all hunting and fishing letters to Keith C. Schuyler, V.F.W. Magazine, Broadway at 34th St., Kansas City 11, Mo.

FRESH FISH

• Although stringers of fish make good pictures, stringers don't make good fish. And, if overused, they don't make good fishing. Fish for human consumption are best killed right after catching. Dragging them around on a stringer, particularly after they are dead, adds nothing to the taste. Trout, in particular, should never be put on stringers.

Some anglers like to keep fish alive for removal to a live-box so that they can be kept for a period of hours or days. Others hold fish on a stringer for release if they can catch larger ones. Such fish should be clipped through both lips as far forward as possible so that the stringer does not tear their mouth parts. Big stringers of game fish do not make the owners popular with conservationists.

Kill only those which you plan to eat. Release the rest for another day.

PLAY BY DAY

• Although game fish, particularly trout, will feed at night in the warm months, early season anglers will do best by daylight. From the time the light hits the water until shadows fall is the best time for spring action.

Fly fishermen will find that trout hit best from just before noon to midafternoon. Later, this trend reverses itself.

SOFT STRIKES

• Although fish will frequently hit a streamer with rod-jarring force in fast water, their take may be just the opposite where the water runs deep. Anglers often miss a strike on streamers in deep water when they mistake a strike for moss or weeds. Both bass and trout will mouth a streamer gently in the safety of the depths where there is no need to hurry. In fast water, they must "hit and git."

WATERFOWL WANING

• A final report on the winter waterfowl survey shows that only the scaup duck and the Canada goose have had consistent increases. Mallards and pintails have reached a 9-year bottom and black ducks are down to the lowest level in 12 years. Canvasbacks are critical. Every indication is that something drastic must be done if we are to continue to have waterfowl shooting as one of our major outdoor sports.

TACKLE TACTICS

• Trout in lakes and trout in streams require similar methods of approach in the early months. When the water is extremely cold, fish are taken most often off the bottom. Troll deep in lakes with spinners, streamers and flies. Work the bottom of the streams with nymphs and wet flies.

As the water starts warming, fish will come to the top for insects in both lakes and streams. As the heat continues, lake fish go down and stay down. But, trout in well-aerated streams will continue to feed on the surface although their meal time changes to late evening and dark hours.

NATURE GETS NASTY

• Over 3½ million dollars in damage was caused to Atlantic Coast wildlife refuges and fishery installations by the devastating storm of March 6. Virtual loss of two national wildlife refuges in Virginia and North Carolina; damage to the fishery laboratory at Franklin City, Va., and National Park Service beaches and facilities at Cape Hatteras brought a blow to conservation. Nature bit the hand that fed it in this case, but all areas will be restored by the Department of the Interior.

TREE TIMES

• In 1900, there were ten and one half acres of forested land for each person in the United States. In 1961, even with the addition of Alaska and Hawaii, there are now only four and one quarter acres of forested land for each U.S. resident. We owe a great debt to the land for what it has provided. The best way we can erase this loss is by planting trees.

There is no sweeter earthly experience than to sit in the shade of a tree that one has planted. This is a proof that God and you can work together.

FRENCH WERE FIRST

• Although various attempts have been made over the years, some successful, to introduce exotic game species into this country, the French were first to help. George Washington received the first shipment of foreign game birds from the Marquis de Lafayette in 1777.

Most notable among the foreign game species is, of course, the Chinese ringneck pheasant. First successful attempt was in 1881, when O. N. Denny, General Consul at Shanghai, introduced 100 pairs into the Willamette Valley of Oregon. On the debit side, are the house sparrow, or so called English sparrow, and the European starling. Both have become national pests.

READER WRITERS

• Frank Helsel, Johnstown, Pa., reports on his method of getting owls out. Standard equipment is an axe with which to cut a long pole. The pole is used to pound on dead trees. This disturbance will frequently bring owls out in the daytime where they make easy targets. Just be sure you know your owls well enough that you shoot only those which are considered harmful.

Edward H. Stone, Canfield, Ohio, has a tip for campers which can come in handy. If boiled eggs get mixed with raw ones, it is quite easy to separate them. Simply spin each egg on a flat surface. Boiled ones will spin like a top; raw ones take a lazy turn. Try it for yourself.

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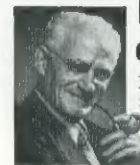
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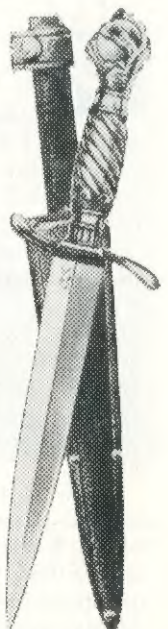
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"He's loose," I yelled.

"Let's get out of here!"

MY MIND WAS MADE UP—I had to fly again. I knew that if I continued to remain grounded I'd be headed for a crackup.

When the 101st Airborne Division was cut off at Bastogne on Dec. 23, 1944, the call went out to our Troop Carrier Command to execute the greatest and most dangerous re-supply operation in the entire European War. General Anthony C. McAuliffe, acting 101st Commander, had replied "Nuts," to a German surrender ultimatum, but food was getting scarce, ammunition was low, and many wounded required medical attention.

It didn't take long for the cumbersome C-47's of the 436th Troop Carrier Group, laden with parapsacks containing ammunition, food and medicine, to rise into the air with engines roaring in a mighty crescendo.

In squadron operation rooms, aircrew men clamored for the chance to

fly supplies to the men they had carried on two airborne invasions—D-Day and the invasion of Holland.

I remembered carrying them into Holland well—only too well. I was aerial-engineer of the "Clay Pigeon." We were shot down on that 17th day of September and I bailed out. Only with the aid of the Dutch underground and God was I able to elude the Germans and once again rejoin my outfit in England. When I came back I was given a seven-day rest leave. Later, Captain Butler, our engineering officer, grounded me and placed me in charge of five C-47's. It was my duty to see that they were kept in flying status, I was in no mental condition to fly again—so I happily accepted. Three months later I hated the job. I yearned to fly again.

Now my buddies were flying into combat again with the urgent mission of re-supplying the beleaguered 101st Airborne Division. My beloved "Clay

Pigeon" wasn't with them and neither was I. I couldn't remain behind. I felt like a ballplayer who used to be a regular and now was warming the bench. I felt useless and sick inside. The long hours of "sweating out" their return inflamed my desire to crew a ship and fly again.

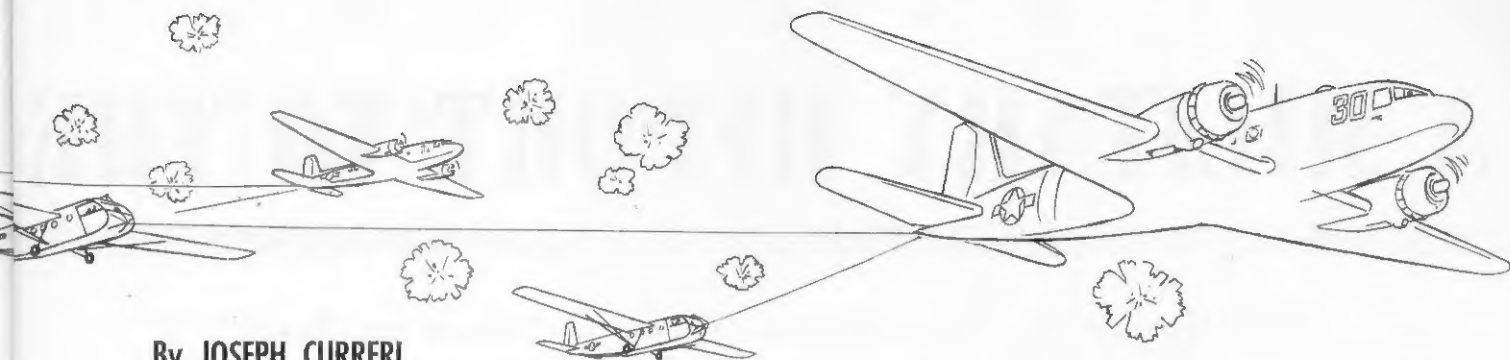
The next day I went in to see Captain Butler.

"Captain," I said, saluting stiffly, "Assign me a ship, I must fly again."

"Impossible," he retorted. "You aren't fit."

"I'll be fit for nothing else until I do," I answered grimly.

The Captain was wise in the ways of combat crewmen. He knew the compulsion that drove a man back to battle after a defeat, but he believed, too, that a crewman who has been shot down in combat is like a prize fighter who has been knocked out in the ring. He has lost his feeling of invincibility and with



By JOSEPH CURRERI

In a Battered Transport Airplane a Courageous Crew Chief Faces Enemy Fire Again in Personal Avowal to Whip His Combat Jitters

that he has lost his best protection against death. Yet, when a man knows that and insists upon going back, what is one to do?

Captain Butler put both his hands on my shoulder. "As you will, Sergeant," he said. "The boys have missed you. The next plane we get will be assigned to you."

For three days, re-supplying Bastogne operations continued. Battered defenders gradually beat back the bulge as the salient shrank, finally shriveled up completely. Canny General Von Rundstedt made a "strategic" withdrawal. The re-supply of Bastogne was over. I had "sweated out" the return of our planes, and now I "sweated out" the arrival of "my" ship.

Three days later, Dec. 29, I was assigned a ship—a battered and decrepit C-47. Based on flying hours, the dirty, oil-streaked veteran of the Air Transport

Command became the oldest ship in the 82nd Squadron.

Receiving that plane not only illuminated my heart but also my spirit. Disregarding her physical appearance, I caressed one of the propellers and whispered, "Don't worry, baby, we'll show them. You'll carry on where 'Clay Pigeon' left off. I'll make you the best ship in the outfit."

The next four days found me feverishly working on her. Worn out parts were replaced with new ones. I inspected every inch of her. I understood her shifting moods, from quickly tender to sharply practical. I grew to know her like the palm of my hand. Doggedly, on her nose I painted her name—"Clay Pigeon II."

My buddies welcomed me back as "one of the boys again." They kidded me about the old ship and chimed, "Remember what happened to the last 'Clay

Pigeon?' How well I did, but this one was going to be different. Her whole renovated life breathed "round ticket."

The following day the old workhorse was ready for flight and I met her crew for the first time. Sergeant Joseph Aiello, a youngster of 21, standing no higher than five feet, announced that he was our radio operator. Totally disregarding my presence, he walked all around the ship, looked up and sneered, "So this is 'Clay Pigeon II?'"

Five minutes later two officers introduced themselves. Lt. Elkins, a tall, lanky Oklahoman, was our pilot. Lt. McKinnon, a quiet, indifferent sort, was our co-pilot. As I gave a smart salute, Lt. Elkins gibed, "Sergeant, does this crate fly?"

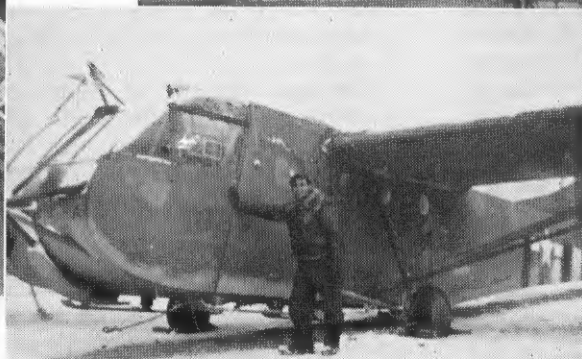
I only grinned. To me, this spavined old workhorse was the key to my present and future life with myself.

(Continued on page 36)

BELOW: The author, T/Sgt. Joseph Curreri, (left), crew chief of "Clay Pigeon II" with S/Sgt. Joe Aiello, radio operator. Both were on the last flight of the old C-47.



ABOVE: The author watches as wounded evacuated from France are taken from "Clay Pigeon II"



LEFT: A glider such as the two towed by "Clay Pigeon II" to carry airborne troops to Germany.

A MILITARY REPORT TO THE

Armed Forces Day Again Stresses Theme of "Power for Peace"

By Jack Simmonds



On Armed Forces Day, 1962, there is a more certain unity of effort among the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps than ever before in our history. When one day was set aside 13 years ago, in place of separate days of observance for each service, unification was both the problem and the compulsion. Unity of effort in combat was never a question, but unity of effort in peacetime has become a question.

Today, Americans everywhere can view with pride the performance and preparedness of their Armed Forces. Much is still to be done, but much has been accomplished. In 1962, we could well dedicate this observance to closer unity and common effort between the civilian effort—industry, education, and civil defense—and our Armed Forces. Much is still to be done, even though many accomplishments are at hand. Our national security depends equally on both efforts—civilian and military. To field a winning combination, neither half can be in international second place.

Any report that the Commander in Chief would make to the Nation on this occasion would include a salute, and a "Well Done" to the National Guard of the Army and Air Force, and the Reserves of all the services for their response to the call our Nation has made upon them in the past year. To those who have sacrificed, the Nation speaks in gratitude.

My report would end with this word to the Nation: Guard zealously your right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard.

A PRIME democratic principle—civilian control of the military—will again be brightly focused on the international screen when millions of persons inspect American defense facilities in the United States and abroad during Armed Forces Week, May 12-20.

Climax of this 9-day period will be the 13th annual observance of Armed Forces Day, May 19. According to locale and convenience, sometime during the period virtually every major U.S. military base will hold a form of public open house. Most are scheduled on Armed Forces Day proper.

Featured will be aerial, land and sea maneuvers; technical exhibits highlighting the science behind space and missile triumphs, military reviews and other

miscellaneous demonstrations. At the community level, ceremonies will blend speechmaking, parades, dinners and similar activities.

Samples of American military hospitality and potential will be made available overseas as well as in the United States where the event is expected to produce the greatest public participation in its history.

The mass opening of United States military installations for public inspection has for the past 13 years emphasized an important facet of political freedom—control of the military by the people through duly elected government officials. In addition to honoring members of the Armed Forces, these citizen inspections are symbolic of the important

role played by the American taxpayer in the mammoth network of National Defense.

Armed Forces Day demonstrates an impressive array of military might assembled for the protection of the people rather than their mastery. It puts into effect the most gigantic "general inspection" ever conceived. It is the citizen's opportunity to "review his troops."

Armed Forces Day was conceived in 1950 to more harmoniously unite U.S. military services under the Department of Defense, created by Congress in 1947. Formerly, each branch had its own annual observance. Army Day, for example, was celebrated on April 6; Air Force Day, Sept. 18; Navy Day, Oct. 27, and the Marine Corps birthday anniversary, Nov. 10.

In selecting a date for this annual event, the Department of Defense gave consideration to weather and other factors. It was finally concluded the third Saturday in May would provide the least conflict with other public events. Accordingly, President Truman proclaimed it "Armed Forces Day," and the date has since been reaffirmed by Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy.

Major emphasis is centered on the primary components of the military defense team—regulars and reserves—but it also honors other segments contributing to National Defense, such as the Department of Civil Defense, the Civil Air Patrol, and national service organizations which are active in combatting Communism, such as the V.F.W.

Public participation in the event has increased yearly. Last year, more than 25 million persons attended or participated in open house and community programs in the United States and overseas. Millions more profited by information regarding national security.

Since 1953, the annual theme of Armed Forces Day has been "Power For Peace"—a concept which reflects the thinking of President Theodore Roosevelt, who said:

"Speak softly, but carry a big stick."

Armed Forces Day gains more significance yearly as international political nerves become increasingly jangled, and

NATION

tensions mount to knot the muscles of diplomacy.

A review of national defense should be of great concern to every taxpayer. What he will see is the product of the most colossal financial expenditure for military purposes in peacetime history. The Department of Defense estimates that 51½-billion dollars will be spent on collective projects for national defense this year, and a record shattering 53.9 billion is earmarked for 1963.

According to Charles J. Hitch, Comptroller of the Department of Defense, the budget would support an operational force of about 1,200 bombers by the end of 1963, half to be maintained on a 15-minute ground alert. A large number of B-52's will be equipped with "Hound Dog" air-to-surface missiles, and operational development of "Skybolt," an air-launched, ballistic missile, is scheduled.

Planning calls for 13 squadrons of "Atlas" ICBM's (Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles) to be completed and in place by the end of 1963, along with approximately 12 "Titan" ICBM squadrons. The first "Minuteman" solid-fuel ballistic missiles are also expected to be operational by that time.

Six Polaris submarines carrying a total of 96 missiles are in commission. Their number will have been increased to nine by June 30, the end of the government fiscal year, and 20 more will then be under construction. An additional six, which would bring the total to 35, are slated for construction in 1963.

All of the forementioned come under the category of Strategic Retaliatory Forces.

The Continental Air and Missile Defense Forces oversee American defenses against bomber attack. They will continue to be based upon a combination of manned interceptors and surface-to-air missiles, with radar networks heavily depended upon for warning of surprise attack. Improvement of the anti-aircraft defense system to function after an ICBM attack is now a principal project since a manned bomber strike might well follow missile launchings. Completion of the Ballistic Missile Early Warn-



The colors of all branches of the Armed Forces fly together to symbolize the unity and strength of America's military defense team. May 19 will mark the 13th annual observance of Armed Forces Day.

ing System (BMEWS) by making a third radar system operational next year is another project.

BMEWS is now capable of providing up to 15 minutes warning of an ICBM attack. Work is continuing on a space satellite system that would extend the warning time and research to improve the "Nike-Zeus" anti-missile system has been given top priority.

The Armed Forces will receive additional equipment designed to handle any emergencies—from global conflict to guerrilla warfare. Mobility is stressed for the rapid deployment of troops to any point calling for limited action.

A significant increase in the procurement of modern weapons and equipment is projected to provide firepower, mo-

bility and versatility in meeting a broad range of military contingencies.

The Army will be equipped with more 7.62 mm. small arms; increased quantities of heavy machine-guns; self-propelled artillery and main battle tanks, and conventional and nuclear munitions. It will purchase a large quantity of tactical vehicles such as trucks, Caribou air transports, and helicopters. Missile procurement will include the "Hercules", "Hawk", and "Red Eye", air defense missiles; the "Honest John", "Little John", "Sergeant", and "Pershing" tactical missiles—plus numerous anti-tank missiles.

The Navy's 1963 program includes construction of 26 new ships and major

(Continued on page 30)

WHY WE NEED A

Veterans Affairs Committee in the U.S. Senate



By HON. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

United States Senator from Minnesota

SOON AFTER World War II, I met a young veteran who had just been discharged from the U.S. Navy and was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars in my state of Minnesota. He was one of the many returning servicemen who devoted his spare time to the cause of veterans and their families. I refer to Robert E. Hansen, the present Commander-in-Chief of the V.F.W. Bob Hansen was one of the first to bring to my attention the fact that the Senate did not have a standing Veterans Affairs Committee comparable to the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

On my election to the Senate in 1948, I found that the great Senator Robert LaFollette, of Wisconsin, had only two years previously steered a bill through the Senate which reorganized the Senate and the House. Senator LaFollette strongly recommended that a committee similar to the House Veterans Affairs Committee be established in the Senate. However, when his bill reached the Senate floor the provision for a Senate Veterans Affairs Committee was deleted. It did not gain much attention among World War II veterans, but for World War I veterans and others who had labored long and hard for such a measure, the setback was a severe disappointment.

I determined at that time to work for establishment of a Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, and for 13 years I have continued to press for this important committee. An argument used in 1946 against the committee—that the veteran population had already reached its peak and would gradually decrease—is no longer factual. Our peacetime Armed Forces have remained at high levels. With 155,000 Reservists recently called up, and scheduled to be released next summer, the veteran population will again be increased.

Many busy Americans tend to forget the great sacrifices of our veterans. President Kennedy, a Navy veteran of World War II on the Pacific battlefield, offered this salute to the 155,000 Reservists and National Guardsmen who were recently called up for a period of active duty:

"The Reservists are doing a very important job. . . and the fact they were called up and responded has strengthened the foreign policy of the United States measurably. . . I do hope these people recognize that they are fulfilling a valuable function. . . they will have the satisfaction afterwards of feeling that they have contributed importantly to the security of their families and their country and at a significant time."

This is the tribute of the President of the United States to a relatively small group of citizens, noting the great contribution they are making for the nation during the cold war.

Here are my principal reasons for continuing to support a Veterans Affairs Committee in the Senate:

(1) Veterans and their families make up a tremendous percentage of our population; (2) veterans and their dependents, including surviving widows, orphans, and dependent parents, number more than 40 million; (3) nearly six million hold GI insurance policies with a face value of \$40 billion; (4) World War II and Korean veterans have borrowed more than \$40 billion for homes, more than half of which has been guaranteed by the Veterans Administration; (5) ten million veterans have received special educational training or similar benefits; (6) more than 600,000 veterans are admitted each year to the more than 170 hospitals operated by the Veterans Administration; (7) more than two million veterans are receiving disability compensation for service-incurred disabilities; (8) more than one million totally disabled veterans are receiving pensions for non-service-connected disabilities; (9) more than one million surviving widows, children, and dependent parents of veterans are receiving death compensation or pensions; (10) the Veterans Administration is one of our largest federal establishments; (11) the Veterans Administration has a force of 173,000 employees. Only the Post Office Department and the Defense Department have more employees; (12) the budget for the Veterans Administration is the fourth largest of all of our government programs.

These are some of the reasons why 39 of my colleagues have joined with me to sponsor a Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. With no centralized committee staff specializing in veterans affairs, many Senators must rely only on the Veterans Administration or the Veterans Affairs Committee in the House to furnish the necessary information. A veterans committee would certainly help to expedite veterans legislation in the Senate.

The problems of veterans and their families are becoming more and more related to the great social programs enacted since World War II. If the Senate is to give proper consideration and treatment to the traditional benefits granted veterans and their families, we need a committee's stature with the specific responsibility for veterans legislation.

The cold war continues. Members of the Armed Forces serve throughout the world under all types of conditions, facing all types of dangers. Since the end of World War II, millions of our young citizens have served in the Armed Forces. Until we can work out a safeguarded arms control and reduction agreement, we must continue to maintain very large active forces. Our nation will continue to include millions of veterans. They deserve the full attention of the Congress which can come only from veterans committees in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

[The End]

The Buddy Poppy Expresses
Our Motto "Honor the Dead
By Helping the Living"



To Show Others That **WE REMEMBERED**

By Elmer L. Jenkins

Director, V.F.W. Buddy Poppy Department

IS YESTERDAY so soon forgotten? One of the precepts of the founders of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was "to remember" those who fought and suffered to preserve the nation. This is the theme which runs through the Constitution of the organization they built.

Members of the V.F.W. and its Ladies Auxiliary implement the theme of remembrance each year by their sale of Buddy Poppies. Graphically, this small flower of remembrance points up the fact that we do remember the deeds of those who served our country. It signifies that we honor their memory and gladly share some of the burdens of those they left behind.

It was "only yesterday"—though the calendar year was 1925—that the first orphan boys and girls entered the V.F.W. National Home for orphans of veterans at Eaton Rapids, Mich. It was "only yesterday" that some of these same children, following in the footsteps of their fathers, offered their lives on the battlefields of World War II and Korea.

Year after year the pennies raised by the sale of Buddy Poppies flow into the treasury of the V.F.W. National Home. One cent from the sale of each Buddy Poppy goes to support this internationally known child welfare project. These pennies provide for the happy childhood and adult life of hundreds of boys and girls who thrive and prosper because of the generosity and unselfish labor of V.F.W. and Auxiliary members.

As we increase the sale of Buddy Pop-

pies we increase the funds available for the National Home and our other charitable activities. If we fail to realize a successful Buddy Poppy year, it is only because we have failed to get the Buddy Poppy story across to a sufficient number of people.

Who would begrudge a few cents spent to enrich the lives of the happy group of children at the V.F.W. National Home?

And what person would refuse to buy a Buddy Poppy knowing that by so doing he was refusing aid to a veteran confined to a VA Hospital? Here, again, the pennies raised by the Buddy Poppy sale provide the cigarettes, the small gifts and the personal requirements that help make hospital life more bearable. It is our job, through the Buddy Poppy, to help others remember that "only yesterday" these hospitalized veterans were young and strong—doing the job they were called upon to do to keep America strong and free. Use the Buddy Poppy to make people aware that your organization gives a little time and effort each each year to make these men feel they and their deeds are not forgotten.

You may wonder why more members do not actively help in the sale of Buddy Poppies. You may wonder why more people on the streets of America do not proudly wear a V.F.W. Buddy Poppy. However, if we do our job right—by promoting the story of the Buddy Poppy in our communities—there will no longer be cause for wonder. The little red flower of remembrance tells a touching story of love and devotion for those to whom we owe so much.

It was "only yesterday" that we of the V.F.W. shared the tragedy of war with our dead and disabled comrades. It was "only yesterday" that we came home—and left some of our buddies behind. Perhaps many have forgotten but we cannot forget. The Buddy Poppy helps us remember.

What can we do for the strong young man of yesterday who is the sick and ailing veteran of today? How can we be sure he is familiar with the generous hospital benefits available to him? What if he is confused by the red tape surrounding his rights as a veteran? We can refer our ailing buddy to a trained V.F.W. Service Officer—a man who serves veterans because the Buddy Poppy helps raise the funds which enable him to act as full-time counselor and adviser. That is another sales incentive for the Buddy Poppy.

Yes, yesterday is soon forgotten. It becomes lost in the problems of today and tomorrow. But the brave men who suffered so much for us must not be forgotten. Americans, who have so much of the good life, cannot neglect those who helped make this life possible. Such is the meaning of the Buddy Poppy—the symbolic flower that says "we have not forgotten."

Millions of Buddy Poppies will bloom on the streets of America during the week-end prior to Memorial Day. Those members of the V.F.W. and Ladies Auxiliary who pin them on the lapels of passers-by will share more deeply than others the spirit of our motto "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living."

(The End)



MINNESOTA -

Vacation Wonderland Awaits Visitors To 63rd V.F.W. National Convention



Minnesota Capitol building at St. Paul

STAR OF THE NORTH is the motto of the great state of Minnesota and visitors agree the words fit our bright 32nd state perfectly. Whether one prefers rugged pursuits of the Great Outdoors or the more sophisticated and cultural aspects of metropolitan pastimes, all are available in myriad form in this beautiful land of lakes and forests.

V.F.W. members who attend the 63rd National Convention in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Aug. 10-17, will find leisure pursuits geared to individual tastes. Those who can schedule it, should plan a vacation to coincide with the convention—come early or stay late, and tour the scenic wonders of the state.

Its amazing abundance of water in the form of lakes, streams, rivers and ponds, makes Minnesota unique. It has more water than any of the 50 states.

In the heart of the territory once known as the "big woods", Minnesota has many timber stands. Like green velvet, the remains of a vast primeval forest still covers large areas. In its southeastern section are found the hardwoods—oak, maple, elm and birch. The Indians, who incidentally invented the canoe, fashioned them from birch bark, and the Chippewa tribe used birch to construct lodges as well. To the North are found the conifers—mostly in their second growth, and here and there is a stand of virgin pine. The nation's largest wilderness park lies within the boundaries of the Superior National Forest in north-eastern Minnesota.

Fantasy has it the thousands of lakes were gouged out by the giant hooves of Paul Bunyan's Blue Ox, Babe, but geologists have a more believable theory. Glacial deposits and moraines tell them a huge Pleistocene sheet of ice covered all but a very small southeastern portion of the state, which it encircled. When the glacier withdrew to the north, about 23,000 B.C., it deposited water in the depressions its huge weight had ripped in the earth's surface. In addition to providing a super abundance of water, the glacier ground down mountains to deposit silt in Minnesota valleys and make them rich farming sources.

Approximately 70 per cent of the nation's iron needs are supplied by Minnesota. The soft, dusty ore of the famed Mesabi range has been mined in huge volume because of the manner in which nature deposited it. Huge, horizontal masses of ore lie an average depth of 200 feet below a surface of glacial deposits. To mine them, it is only necessary to strip away their cover and scoop out the ore in huge buckets with capac-



Huge statues of the legendary Paul Bunyan and his Blue Ox, Babe, stand at Bemidji, Minn.

Star of the North



ities up to five tons. The Vermilion and Cuyuna ranges are mined underground. Geological upheavels tilted their deposits vertically. The iron of Cuyuna features manganese which plays a vital role in steel production. More than 25 communities owe their existence to the mines.

From its famed Arrowhead district in the northeastern segment of the state to its southernmost tip, Minnesota provides recreation of almost every kind. Its lakes and streams are complemented with a multitude of resorts, some in the heart of the wilderness, and innumerable hotels, motels, tourist courts and camp sites are available to travelers.

One of the most majestic roads in the nation, from a scenic standpoint, circles Lake Superior, the largest body of fresh water in the world. Completion in 1960 of the North Shore Drive linked the circuitous course through Ontario, Canada. Its entire route is bejeweled with scenes of rare natural beauty.

The St. Lawrence Seaway gave Minnesota a seaport—Duluth. There, one can watch ships from faraway ports discharge their exotic cargoes. Duluth, the innermost seaport of the world, is located at the end of a finger-like, westward extension of Lake Superior.

Lake Superior is the "Gitchi Gummi" of Longfellow's Hiawatha, which in the Chippewa language means, "great water." It is a veritable inland sea measuring 383 x 160 miles at its maximum points of distance. It occupies 31,820 square miles and is nearly 1,300 feet deep in places. Shore areas enjoy an air conditioned climate in which it is said hay fever does not exist. Among the views motorists enjoy circling its ex-

(Continued on page 32)



Skyline view of Minneapolis at night

Register for the V.F.W. Convention in Advance!

● Save time and money by mailing the coupon below. V.F.W. members and guests (or V.F.W. Posts) can register in advance by mail for the 1962 V.F.W. National Convention in Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 10-17, 1962. If you are a delegate, your credentials will be recorded when you pick up your advance registration package in Minneapolis. If you cannot attend, your registration package will be returned to you. Delegates and guests will receive a souvenir badge, together with a Convention Entertainment Booklet (providing admission to an outstanding program of events) and a copy of the Official Program.

(Make all checks or money orders payable to the V.F.W. 63rd National Convention Corporation)

V.F.W. 63rd National Convention Corporation
National Headquarters, Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis 4, Minn.

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STREET ADDRESS

CITY & STATE

5-62

CAPITOL DIGEST

By Francis W. Stover

Director, V.F.W. National Legislative Service



COMPENSATION INCREASE PASSES HOUSE 345 to 0: On April 2 the House of Representatives, by unanimous vote, passed a compensation increase bill for the service-disabled, 345 to 0. In addition to increasing compensation rates by at least the cost of living increase since 1957, it makes adjustments in the compensation rates for the more seriously disabled. For identification purposes, the bill is H.R. 10743. It will add \$99 million a year to the compensation payments of approximately two million veterans.

However, when these compensation increase proposals reached the Senate they had been bogged by unrelated insurance amendments. Three compensation increase bills passed the House and Senate, or both, during the first session of the 87th Congress. Yet none were cleared and sent to the President because each bill contained some added amendments. The Senate has so far approved the procedure of attempting to have the NSLI program reopened by using compensation increase legislation as a vehicle to obtain House approval of the controversial NSLI reopening.

All V.F.W. members have been urged by Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen to get behind this bill and do everything possible to have it clear the Senate without going back to the House with amendments. Every V.F.W. member should write or contact their two United States Senators to indicate their interest and support of action on the part of their Senators to have H.R. 10743 speedily passed without amendment by the Senate. In doing so, each will be furthering one of our great purposes, "preserving and strengthening comradeship and assisting worthy comrades."

V.F.W. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF SENDS LETTER TO EACH U.S. SENATOR: The following letter, which each of the one hundred United States Senators has received, contains the official reason why the Veterans of Foreign Wars wants H.R. 10743 passed as speedily as possible, and without amendments:

"On Monday, April 2, 1962, the House of Representatives by a record vote of 345 to 0, passed a bill (H.R. 10743) which provides a cost of living increase in the compensation payments for those veterans who were disabled serving in the Armed Forces.

"This bill represents the fourth attempt by the 87th Congress to approve a modest compensation increase for our service-disabled veterans. During the first session three different bills (H.R. 879, H.R. 856, and S. 2051) all containing a compensation increase, were never agreed upon by the House and Senate and are still awaiting further action. In previous correspondence of August 8 and September 7, 1961, the Veterans of Foreign Wars appealed to you to provide compensation increases for the service-disabled, as contained in these bills.

"The President of the United States favors this compensation increase. The House of Representatives, by a unanimous

vote, favors this increase. The Veterans of Foreign Wars has no doubt the Senate will unanimously approve it.

"The inability of the Senate and House to agree on a compensation increase has so far cost the service-disabled, which includes veterans wounded on the battlefield, \$87 million. The Veterans of Foreign Wars is asking your help to have H.R. 10743 reported by your Finance Committee, speedily approved by the Senate, and sent to the President. Any suggestions or advice you may have to accomplish this goal will be deeply appreciated."

signed/ Robert E. Hansen
Commander-in-Chief

BILLS APPROVED BY HOUSE AND PENDING IN SENATE: On April 2 a new record was established by the House when it passed and sent to the Senate 13 bills directly relating to the field of veterans' programs and benefits. A brief summary of these bills is as follows:

Medical Advisory Panels: H.R. 852 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Authorizes the Veterans Administration to establish a medical advisory panel to resolve conflicts of medical evidence in questions concerning service-connection of disabilities or deaths.

Veterans' Appeals: H.R. 857 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Provides that cases appealed to the Board of Veterans' Appeals shall contain a brief statement of the facts of the case appealed, with a citation and application of the law, together with recommendations of the Veterans Administration Regional Office from which appealed.

Educational Benefits: H.R. 1811 by Mr. Loser of Tennessee—Permits attendance at foreign educational institutions under certain conditions for war orphans of service-connected deceased veterans. Previously under the War Orphans Educational Assistance Act an orphan was not authorized to pursue a course outside the United States or its possessions. Allowances payable will be the same and no additional cost involved.

Blindness: H.R. 3728 by Mr. Baring of Nevada—Would authorize total disability rating for compensation to about 40 cases who were granted service-connection for blindness in one eye, but since being separated from active duty have incurred blindness in the other eye.

Widows' Benefits: H.R. 5234 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Proposes that benefits for widows of deceased veterans be resumed where marriage or remarriage of the widow was void, or annulled, if no fraud is intended or the widow was mentally incompetent.

World War I Insurance: H.R. 10068 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Provides that veterans holding World War I term insurance (USGLI) may exchange such insurance at age 65 for a policy providing death protection only with correspondingly reduced premiums. Approximately 14,000 USGLI term policies are in force.

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Let's Legalize F.B.I. Wiretapping

By Col. Leon G. Turrou

Editor's Note: The author, Col. Leon G. Turrou, has served as Commander of Benjamin Franklin Post 605, Paris, France, since 1959. As a former Army officer, a former agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and as a leader in the V.F.W., Colonel Turrou has rendered years of outstanding and distinguished service to his country. Following duty with the Military Police Corps in World War II, Colonel Turrou was placed in charge of the Central Registry of War Criminals and Security Suspects. This agency apprehended approximately 75,000 war criminals. At the V.F.W. Washington Conference last February, Colonel Turrou was presented the V.F.W. Silver Medal of Merit for his "services to the defense of our nation toward enhancing its campaign against Communism and strengthening the bond between freedom-loving people."

WITHIN THE bleak fastness of Alcatraz are some of our most highly prized retired public enemies who spend much of their idle time blaspheming the evil breaks which blighted their careers. Over and over again they turn the course of events, weighing the importance of separate factors, that combined to lead them to the desolation of the island penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. And from the welter of reflection many blame wiretapping as the chief cause of their misfortunes.

They rue that baleful day when wiretapping was born in the minds of law enforcement officers as an effective means to cope with crime. No one in the world hates wiretapping more fervently than they.

In 1939, the highest legal authority in the land, the United States Supreme Court, ruled that inter-state evidence obtained by wiretapping in liquor smuggling and insurance disability cases was illegal. Other similar legal precedents have been established regarding wiretapping in lower courts as well. Arguments based upon the constitutional theory that wiretapping is an "invasion of privacy" were largely responsible for those verdicts. But momentum is being gained to make wiretapping legal under certain prescribed conditions.

Practical lessons, gained during my 10 years as a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, taught me there is no weapon more valuable to G-men in

warring on desperate outlaws than the privilege of listening to their telephone conversations. I must concede that there has been flagrant abuse of wiretapping by some law enforcement agencies. But, in my opinion, never by agents of the FBI. I say this from no feeling of loyalty to the FBI, or prejudice against those it has investigated in this manner. It is the simple truth—the FBI slate is clean.

There has never been a time when it was more necessary for the FBI to have every possible resource at its command than the present. The hostile governments of Russia and its satellites have placed enemy agents at strategic points throughout the United States. In diverse ways, America is being sabotaged daily. It is only a question of time before the full effect of these insidious attacks will be felt.

Wiretapping must be legalized if J. Edgar Hoover and his men are to be given full freedom in combating the menaces of crime and Communism. Spying is largely a matter of keeping one's ears open—of listening and watching. Counter-espionage, our government's job, runs parallel to the enemy's approach. What sense is there in denying our counter-spies the right to use as evidence what they can record on a telephone line?

There are six men serving life terms in Alcatraz whose stories of demise are highlighted by wiretapping. They were wanted by the United States government for a series of bank robberies. After extensive investigation, the New York office of the FBI, to which I was then attached, obtained a lead on their whereabouts. We were certain, but not legally so, that six men occupying a flat in Brooklyn were the ones we sought.

By tapping the telephone and wiring the apartment, we heard them discussing their crimes in detail. We made phonograph records of what they said in the supposed security of their hideout. Their separate voices were recorded with fidelity. So were the names by which they addressed one another. We listened to glib mention of banks and the dates they had been robbed. They did a complete job of giving us all the incriminating evidence we needed. As thorough as one would find in a prepared confession.

When we thought we had gathered enough evidence to establish a foolproof case in court, we apprehended them. Afterwards we learned they had not talked about one very important item. Not a single clue had they given to the amazing cache of weapons concealed in their apartment.

From closets and drawers we collected six sub-machine guns, four rifles, and an assortment of hand grenades and bombs. It was the most complete robber arsenal I ever came across in my FBI experience.

We may never have secured information to convict these bandits had we not tapped their telephone. Men of that sort do not keep sub-machine guns and other ordnance on hand for sporting purposes. Beyond doubt they would have committed wholesale murder without hesitation to gain their ends.

There have been many wanton massacres of innocent persons in the commission of crimes. A well known example is the one carried out by Pretty Boy Floyd, Machine-gun Miller, and others of their ilk, outside the Union Station in Kansas City, Mo., June 17, 1933.

The FBI has solved nearly 200 kidnaping cases and failed on only two, the Matson and Levine cases. Of all the modern methods used by the Bureau, none proved more useful than wiretapping in the solution of these crimes.

Why are there so few kidnappings today? Why did the epidemic of kidnappings which shocked the country in the late 1920's and 30's come to a halt?

Because the FBI was unhampered by legal obstacles in the pursuit of the perpetrators. Kidnaping was made an unhealthy occupation. Records show the percentage of arrests and convictions is higher in kidnaping cases than any other type of felony.

One of the greatest common fallacies concerning the FBI is that the Bureau stresses capture of the kidnaper ahead of the victim's safety. Listen to what Mr. Hoover told us when I was assigned to a team investigating abduction of the Lindbergh baby.

"Do nothing that might jeopardize the life of this baby," he said. "Never let
(Continued on page 27)



Carolyn Smith



Kenneth Bannister



Sandra Smith



Andy Holdorph



Kathleen McHugh



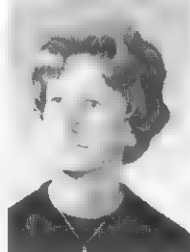
Jim Mohler



Keitha Smith



Larry Long



Nancy Cook



Tom Nousaine



Mary Jane Morris

1962 National Home Graduates

This year, 11 boys and girls of the V.F.W. National Home, Eaton Rapids, Mich., will be members of the June graduating class of the Eaton Rapids High School. Ten of the 11 plan to continue their educational training in other schools and colleges; one young lady will be married in June. Through the generous assistance of V.F.W. and Auxiliary members, and the Military Order of the Cootie, the National Home can assure these young people of aid and guidance in all the years ahead.

KENNETH BANNISTER, 17, was sponsored at the V.F.W. National Home by Post 1925, Seymour, Ind. He has two younger brothers living at the Home. An older brother, Fred, graduated last year. During his high school years in Eaton Rapids, Ken has been active in the Conservation Club, Film Operator's Club, Drama Club and Junior Play. As a senior he was on the staff of the Eatonian (school year book). Ken plans to attend Ferris Institute in Big Rapids, Mich., and major in Basic Business.

NANCY COOK, 18, came to the National Home, along with her sister, Emma, in 1953 sponsored by Post 2202, Chicago, Ill. Nancy has been active in the Girls' Athletic Association and in the Y-Teens Club. In her senior year, Nancy was on the Senior Play committee and the Eatonian staff. Nancy will attend Ferris Institute, Big Rapids, Mich., and will major in Basic Business.

ANDY HOLDORPH, 18, came to the National Home with five brothers and sisters and his mother in 1960. They were sponsored by Post 7542, Birch Run, Mich. Andy has been active in football, track, wrestling and cross-country. He belonged to the Conservation Club, the Eatonian staff and the Air Explorers. Last summer Andy attended Montana State College, Bozeman, Mont., for a special course in Earth Science. Andy plans to attend the University of Michigan, majoring in Science.

LARRY LONG, 18, is the eldest of four children at the National Home. They were sponsored by Post 2209, Nevada, Iowa. Larry played on the reserve football team, the reserve and varsity basketball teams and was a member of the Varsity Club. Larry desires to major in Political Science and may enter the field of sports broadcasting. He plans to attend Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich.

SANDRA SMITH, 18, came to the National Home with two brothers in 1947. They were sponsored by Post 1598, Columbus, Ohio. Sandy has been active in Chorus and the Y-Teens during her high school years. She has been very active in church work at the Baptist Church of Eaton Rapids. Sandy is planning to attend beauty school in Lansing, Mich.

JIM MOHLER, 17, was sponsored by Post 1110, Frankfort, Ind. He came to the National Home, with a sister and two brothers in 1955. Jim played freshman football but injured his knee during the season. Attempting to play again in his senior year, the old injury recurred and he was again forced to withdraw. Jim has been active in the Conservation Club and he has been a steady helper in the truck garden of the Home. He plans to attend the Toledo School of Meat Cutting in Toledo, Ohio.

MARY JANE MORRIS, 17, came to the National Home with five brothers and sisters in 1946. They were sponsored by Post 706, Pensacola, Fla. Mary Jane is the youngest of the family. She has been active in the Girls' Athletic Association and was on the Prom Committee during her senior year. Mary Jane plans to take a secretarial course at the Lansing Business University, Lansing, Mich.

TOM NOUSAINE, 17, is the oldest of three boys who came to the National Home in 1956. They were sponsored by Post 3289, New York Mills, Minn. Tom is Vice President of the Senior class; treasurer of the Varsity Club and Editor-in-Chief of the Eatonian. He played Varsity football and participated in wrestling and baseball. He also played all four years in the high school band. Tom received a trophy as the outstanding member of the National Home in 1961-62. He is planning to attend the University of Minnesota and will major in engineering.

KEITHA SMITH, 17, is the youngest of seven children who came to the National Home in 1948 with their mother. They were sponsored by Post 1247, Grand Junction, Colo. Keitha was active in the Y-Teens, the Girls' Athletic Association and had a lead in the Junior Play. She was a band majorette and a member of the Class Executive Committee. Keitha plans to attend Lansing Business University, taking a secretarial course.

KATHLEEN McHUGH, 18, is a member of a family of four who came to the Home in 1955. They were sponsored by Post 5140, Florence, Ala. Kathy has served on her class Executive Board and the Eatonian staff. She has been active in the Y-Teens, was cheerleader for junior high, reserve and Varsity athletics and was representative of her class on the Student Council. Kathy plans to be married following graduation in June.

CAROLYN SMITH, 18, came to the National Home with her sister and brother in 1950. They were sponsored by Post 176, Newport News, Va. Carolyn has been an excellent student. She has been active in the Y-Teens throughout her high school years. She is planning to attend International Business School, Fort Wayne, Ind., where she will take a secretarial course.

ENJOY A MINNESOTA VACATION WITH THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

At Breezy Point Lodge

MAKE YOUR National Convention trip complete with a four-day vacation in the heart of Minnesota's fabulous lake country prior to the opening of the 63rd National Convention in Minneapolis.

Special arrangements have been made for the exclusive use of one of Minnesota's finest resorts—magnificent Breezy Point Lodge, the million dollar resort created by the late Captain Billy Fawcett, famed magazine publisher, as a playground for celebrities. Located on Big Pelican Lake, about 150 miles northwest of Minneapolis, the lodge provides modern luxury in a setting of natural grandeur.

An all-expense package is offered exclusively to V.F.W. and Auxiliary delegates at a special price of \$70.00 per person.

Busses will leave Minneapolis hotels at 1.00 P.M. on Monday, Aug. 6, and will bring you back on Friday afternoon, Aug. 10, in plenty of time to get ready for the Convention.

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PING-PONG • POOL • BILLIARDS
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St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Please send me full information on the V.F.W. Vacation at Breezy Point Lodge, August 6-10, 1962, including a picture brochure of facilities.

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Street Address

City and State

(NOTE: You may assure your accommodations by sending your check or money order at the rate of \$70.00 per person with this form. Make all checks payable to: Department of Minnesota, V.F.W.)

I enclose ☐ check ☐ money order in the amount of \$_____ to cover
the cost of vacations for _____ persons.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

V.F.W. Protests Food Shipments To Red China and Cuba

PRESIDENT KENNEDY has been urged by V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen, South St. Paul, Minn., to prohibit any U.S. shipment of foodstuffs to Communist Cuba or Communist China.

Making this recommendation, the V.F.W. leader said, "Communist China is in trouble domestically because Mao Tse-tung and his ruthless regime place a higher priority on aggression against freedom than they do on feeding their own citizens. The Red Chinese leaders are faced with food shortages, not only because of unfavorable weather, but also because they have violated every economic and moral law. The United States," Commander-in-Chief Hansen continued, "should not bail Mao Tse-tung and his Red conspiracy out of the difficulty they have been responsible for creating for themselves."

Explaining V.F.W. opposition to giving assistance to Communist China and Cuba, Commander-in-Chief Hansen said that the V.F.W. believes it is only realistic to recognize that the free world is engaged in a death struggle with Communism.

"Communist China today supports one of the largest military establishments in the world," Hansen said. "Such a large standing army naturally is a drain on the nation's agriculture. This huge army, which has as its objective the destruction of the United States and all other freedom-loving nations, should not be indirectly fed or supported by U.S. food shipments. We must not forget," he emphasized, "every bit of food that would be provided to Chinese civilians releases that amount of food for Mao's Red Army. Thus, the shipment of food supplies to Red China's civilian populace would not only cover up the errors of the Red regime, but it would also strengthen the Communist forces of conquest."

"Any nation," Commander-in-Chief Hansen continued, "that strengthens an enemy dedicated to the destruction of that nation, engages in an act of national suicide. We would," he said, "be strengthening the arm that even now is trying to plunge the dagger in our heart."

Although he directed his comments principally on Red China, Commander-in-Chief Hansen emphasized that the views also pertained to Castro's Cuba.

"The members of the V.F.W.," he said, "are not insensitive to suffering by any people anywhere. But we must recognize that the food shortages in Red China and Red Cuba are in large measure the results of deliberate policies which those oppressive regimes are continuing in spite of the suffering it causes the populace."

"However, if the Red Chinese leaders will withdraw from their aggressions in Southeast Asia; if they will account for the long list of still-missing U.S. and Allied prisoners of war taken by them in Korea; if they will disband their army of Red conquest and send it back to till the fields and produce food; if they will renounce the Communist goal of world conquest, and if they will demonstrate a love of peace, then, as a humanitarian measure, the United States could well reconsider the matter of shipping food to China."

"Therefore," Commander-in-Chief Hansen concluded, "as long as Castro's Cuba and Mao's China deliberately adhere to a policy that sacrifices their people on the altar of aggression, the United States and the free world must stand firm and refrain from strengthening these bandit nations whose goal is our destruction. We must as a nation, distinguish between that which is soft-hearted and that which is soft-headed."

V.F.W. Chief Urges Firm U. S. Policy on Okinawa

V.F.W. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF Robert E. Hansen, South St. Paul, Minn., has questioned the recent Executive Order issued by President Kennedy restricting the authority of the U.S. High Commissioner on Okinawa and opening the door for Japanese participation in the domestic affairs of that island. He said it will complicate the utilization of Okinawa for military purposes.

Commander-in-Chief Hansen, who recently returned from a trip through the Far East, including Okinawa, emphasized that any concession to either the Okinawans or to the Japanese government, particularly at this time could seriously impair freedom of action with respect to Okinawa.

"I am firmly convinced," Hansen stated, "that such concessions as are apparently

envisaged in the recent Executive Order will be interpreted throughout the Far East as a preliminary step to eventual U.S. abandonment of that key U.S. defense installation. Such an expectation on the part of the Okinawans will force them into closer association with the Japanese government. It will, at the same time, intensify the pressure of the left-wing Communist front elements in Japan, which have been so vocal in demanding the return of Okinawa. We cannot," the V.F.W. leader pointed out, "buy good will or even time with such concessions."

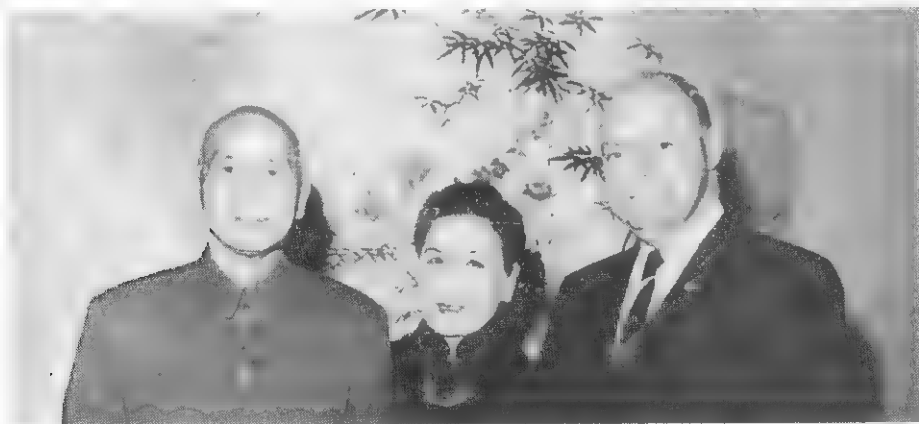
"We must not overlook the very vital fact," the Commander-in-Chief continued, "that our nation paid a heavy price in blood for Okinawa. It was seized because it was a crucially important military position. If it had such important strategic value in the last year of World War II, before mainland China was lost to Communism, then Okinawa is of even greater importance today. Strategically, Okinawa is a key feature in the outer defense line of the United States which runs from South Korea, through Okinawa, Formosa and the Philippines. To the extent that U.S. military control is impaired on Okinawa, the Western Pacific defense line of the United States is softened."

"Once the Japanese government, which has demonstrated its sensitivity to street mobs, gets a foot in the door as far as the administration of Okinawa is concerned, then our military authorities on the island and the U.S. government itself will be under continuing pressure to prohibit the use of Okinawa as a base for nuclear weapons and for surveillance flights along the waters off the China coast."

Concluding, Commander-in-Chief Hansen stated, "Our nation and the free world are engaged in a death struggle with Communism in the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia. Okinawa has been built up as a military bastion in that area. In this time of growing crisis, military requirements rather than altruism must control our policy. Any impairment of military control of Okinawa, either by concession to the civilian populace, or by increase of Japanese influence, will ultimately mean that we have opened a 'Pandora's Box' in the Far East. If the United States contemplates the return of Okinawa to Japan, then realism and prudence require us to get on with the fortification of Guam and the Hawaiian Islands."

Mayor Ted C. Connell

• Past Commander-in-Chief Ted C. Connell has been elected mayor of the city he chose as his "home town" back in 1946—Killeen, Texas. Connell, who served as V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief in 1960-61, arrived in Killeen as a 21-year-old discharged Army veteran, fresh from three years of service in the South Pacific. He is now one of the leading citizens and outstanding businessmen of Killeen. He is especially proud of the fact that he is a charter member of Killeen's V.F.W. Post 9192, where, after being elected Post Chaplain, he began the dynamic career that led to the top office of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



During Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen's recent tour of active duty in the Far East as a U. S. Naval Reserve Officer, he was privileged to meet with President and Madame Chiang Kai-Shek at Taipei, the capital of Formosa. The leader of Free China and the V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief discussed the problems resulting from Communist aggression in many countries of the Orient.



J. A. CHEATHAM

New V.F.W. Quartermaster General Takes Office

J. A. (AL) CHEATHAM, a staff member of National Headquarters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars since 1945, was installed as Quartermaster General of the organization on April 6 following his election by the National Council of Administration. He had been serving as Acting Quartermaster General, on appointment by the National Council of Administration, since retirement of former Quartermaster General Robert B. Handy, Jr., on Feb. 28.

Born in New Orleans, La., in 1918, Cheatham later moved with his family to Haleyville, Ala., where he attended grade and high school. He attended Chillicothe Business College, Chillicothe, Mo., graduating with a major in accounting. Prior to overseas duty in World War II, Cheatham received training at the University of Missouri in the Air Cadet program. He also studied business administration and accounting at the evening college of the University of Kansas City.

In World War II, Cheatham enlisted as an Aviation Cadet. Following his commission as a pilot officer, he was assigned to a B-24 group and served overseas with the 15th Air Force in Italy. He flew 21 combat missions and was awarded the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters and the European Theater campaign medal.

As a charter member of Post 4614, Kansas City, Mo., Cheatham joined the staff of the National Headquarters in 1945 as one of the first World War II veterans employed there. He currently belongs to V.F.W. Post 869, Kansas City, Kans. He was assigned to the V.F.W. Supply Department and in 1949 assumed duties in the Accounting Department as an assistant to Quartermaster General Handy. In September, 1961, he became Assistant Building Manager of the V.F.W. Building, in charge of leasing and tenant relations.

Since 1958, Comrade Cheatham has devoted part of his leisure time to serving as an instructor in the Dale Carnegie leadership training program, and has taught voluntary classes for the inmates of state and federal prisons located near Kansas City. He is active in church and community projects in Shawnee-Mission, Kans., where he resides.

Cheatham and his wife, Thelma, have two children, Carol, 14, and Dean, 10.

Memorial Day Dedication of U.S.S. Arizona Memorial

● The dedication of the U.S.S. *Arizona* Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, is scheduled to be held on Memorial Day, May 30, 1962. It will be the climax of the long campaign to erect a fitting monument in tribute to the 1,176 officers and men who lost their lives when the *Arizona* was sunk by enemy planes on Dec. 7, 1941.

Final construction on the memorial is nearing completion. This will include the installation of a memorial wall above the sunken vessel bearing the names of those still entombed within its hull.

Hundreds of visitors interrupt their Hawaiian vacations each day to visit the memorial and Pearl Harbor. A distinguished group of recent visitors was composed of members of the First Legislature of the State of Hawaii.

In addition to the *Arizona* dead, the completed memorial will commemorate all members of the Armed Forces who gave their lives during the attack on Pearl Harbor. The total cost of the memorial will be about \$500,000.

Former Quartermaster General Handy Honored at Reception

SEVERAL HUNDRED persons attended a reception and special ceremony held in Kansas City, Mo., on March 31 to honor Comrade Robert B. Handy, Jr., who retired on Feb. 28 after serving 38 years as Quartermaster General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The event took place in the Trophy and Memory Hall buildings of the Kansas City Liberty Memorial. Comrade Handy serves as a Vice President of the Board of Governors of the Liberty Memorial Association.

On hand to pay their respects to the man who is known as "Mr. V.F.W." to thousands of his fellow veterans, were scores of leading citizens—state and city officials, officers of the V.F.W. and other veteran groups, and representatives of state and local organizations.

A stirring musical presentation by the drum and bugle corps of the Jackson County, Mo., County Council opened the ceremonies. This was followed by a special concert of World War I melodies played on the memorial carillon. Comrade and Mrs. Handy then greeted their guests individually as members of local Boy Scout Troop 13 formed an honor guard for them.

A highlight of the program was the presentation of flags of the United States and the V.F.W. to the Liberty Memorial Association. Comrade William L. McGinnis, Jackson County Council, presented the flags to Lowell R. Johnson, Association Executive Vice President.

Following the reception program, the guests proceeded to the memorial's Memory Hall where the American section of the famous World War I painting "Pantheon de la Guerre" is on display. Daniel MacMorris, well-known American portrait painter who restored the painting, gave a talk on the history of the huge mural painting. (An article entitled "The 'Pantheon de la Guerre'—World's Largest Painting" appeared in the April, 1960, issue of *V.F.W. Magazine*.)

REHABILITATION

Special Insurance Dividend Available to Many Korea Vets

TWENTY-THREE million dollars is still available to pay dividends to some 210,000 Korea veterans who hold "RS" term insurance policies, according to the Veterans Administration Department of Insurance.

This special dividend, the VA pointed out, is available only to those veterans who still hold policies with the prefix "RS" in front of their policy number. No other policyholders are eligible.

The "RS" policyholder cannot be paid this dividend unless he takes one of the following two actions:

1. Exchange his "RS" term insurance policy for a term policy that will generally cost him only one-third of what he is now paying. The new policy cannot be renewed as term insurance after age 50—but it can be converted to a low cost permanent plan insurance policy at any time before the insured reaches age 50.

2. Convert his policy to a low cost permanent plan insurance policy now.

If the "RS" policyholder takes either of the above actions before Sept. 14, 1963, he will receive his special dividend. These dividends average about \$100, depending upon the age of the policyholder and the length of time he has held his policy.

All "RS" policyholders have received detailed information about their own policies from the VA. It is to their advantage, the VA emphasizes, to return the card sent to them or to contact their nearest VA office.

Additional Funds Allotted For Direct Home Loans

THE VETERANS Administration has announced that \$75 million will be distributed to field offices on July 2 for the purpose of making direct home loans. Approximately \$25 million will be obtained from principal repayments received from borrowers who have direct loans and the balance will come from Treasury borrowings under current authorization.

VA officials estimate that it will be possible in May to notify field offices of their respective fund allotments. At that time VA Regional Offices will be authorized to furnish direct loan applications to veterans on their waiting lists in advance of the distribution on July 2.

The VA decision to make \$75 million available to field offices in July was made after a review of direct loan activity since October, 1961. The VA said that additional allocations would be made during Fiscal Year 1963, but that the amount and timing would be determined at a later date.

During 1961 the VA made 23,488 direct loans for a total of \$244.9 million. These loans were made to veterans residing in rural areas and in small cities and towns where GI financing by private lenders historically has not been generally available.

As of Jan. 31, 1962, the VA had made 202,794 loans totaling \$1.7 billion. The direct loan program started in 1950. Direct loan borrowers have proved themselves to be good credit risks. Since the program began in 1950, less than one per cent of the loans made have had to be foreclosed.



Joining St. Patrick's Day celebrants for some good natured badinage at V.F.W. Post 8487, Cleveland, Ohio, March 17, was J. Edward Day, U. S. Postmaster General (center). Other Postal employees shown are, left to right, Eugene Pinson and Frank Farrell, postal inspectors; Nelson Sundermeier, Cleveland postmaster, and Michael Monroney, Postmaster Day's executive-assistant.



Gov. John B. Swainson of Michigan (third from left) recently became the first citizen of his state to contribute for a Buddy Poppy when he attended a Home Show at Royal Oak, Mich. The show included this V.F.W. exhibit and information booth of Post 1669. The booth proved a highly successful recruiting idea which increased the Post's membership by 40 veterans—the most to join at one time since World War II ended. Shown about to present the Poppy to Gov. Swainson is Post Auxiliary President Mrs. Don Draher. Her husband, a Past Post Commander and trustee of the V.F.W. National Home, is at the left. To the right of Governor Swainson are Past Post Commander Ernie Brown; Harry Kantz, who operated the booth, and Past Post Commander John Flannery.



V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen (right) is shown discussing Army affairs with Maj. Gen. Herbert A. Smith, (center) Commander of the 32nd Division stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., and 1st Sgt. Douglas Henry, Senior Vice Commander of the V.F.W. Dept. of Wisconsin. Hansen later presented the division a plaque for participating constructively in Fort Lewis community affairs.

Life Membership Procedures for 1962

SECTION 111 of the National By-Laws, providing for life membership, was amended by the 1961 National Convention, eliminating the requirement that life membership be limited to members in good standing of the V.F.W. The amendment, as adopted, was at variance with other procedural requirements of the Section. This created much confusion with respect to payment of 1962 dues on non-members applying for life membership upon original application, reinstating former members, and on members who had already paid 1962 dues and been so reported to the National Headquarters.

To clarify the situation as it now exists, the matter was referred to the National Council of Administration at its meeting held in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 3, 1962. By its authority, the following procedure will be followed in processing applications for life membership, paying 1962 dues from the Life Membership Fund account, and refunding 1962 dues on members already in good standing for 1962.

Life Membership Applications: Eligible non-members and reinstating former members applying for life membership, will complete a regular application card (white) containing service data and the membership obligation. The card will be processed in regular order and bear the signature of the sponsor and members of the Post investigating committee. This card is retained for Post records. Posts should use utmost caution in determining eligibility of non-members applying for life membership.

Life membership applications (blue) must be executed in triplicate and signed by the applicant who pays the appropriate fee to his Post Quartermaster. (See Section 111 of the National By-Laws). Application forms may be obtained by Posts from the Quartermasters of their respective Departments.

Applications must be signed by the Post Quartermaster certifying that the applicant is eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The Post Quartermaster retains one copy for Post records and sends the other two to the Department Headquarters with remittance in the proper amount to pay the fee.

The Department Quartermaster records and signs the application, retains one copy for the Department file and sends the third copy, with fee, to the Quartermaster General.

Upon receipt by the Quartermaster General, the fee will be deposited to the credit of the Life Membership Fund. Application will be processed and a life membership card issued.

The life membership card will be sent to the Post Quartermaster, unless otherwise requested by the Department Quartermaster.

1962 dues from the Life Membership Fund will be paid early in April, 1962, on all life members recorded at the National Headquarters between January 1, 1962 and March 31, 1962—regardless of the member's status in the Post.

Thereafter, 1962 dues will be paid quarterly on all life members recorded during the preceding three months. This means that in July, 1962, dues for 1962 will be

paid on all life members recorded during April, May and June, 1962, and so on.

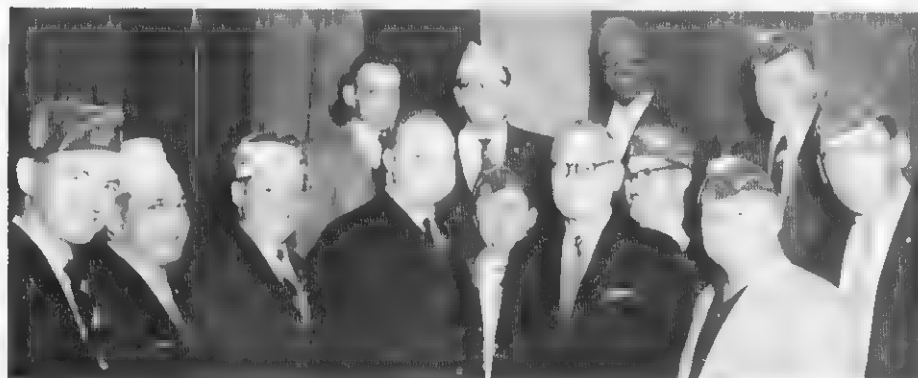
Refund of 1962 Dues: Should any of these payments create a duplication of dues payments for any life member recorded since Jan. 1, 1962, Posts desiring refund of 1962 National and Department dues on such members shall make request through the Department, listing the name of each such life member and identifying his previous dues payment for 1962. Refund of duplicate 1962 dues payments will be channeled back to the Posts through the Department Headquarters.

Department Conventions 1962

ALABAMA—Montgomery	June 15-17
ALASKA—Sitka	June 10-14
ARIZONA—Yuma	June 7-9
ARKANSAS—Hot Springs	June 21-24
CALIFORNIA—Bakersfield	June 24-28
COLORADO—Loveland	June 13-16
CONNECTICUT—Groton-New London	June 15-17
DELAWARE—Rehoboth Beach	June 15-16
DIST. OF COLUMBIA—Washington	June 21-23
FLORIDA—Clearwater	June 7-10
GEORGIA—Atlanta	June 22-24
HAWAII—Honolulu	May 10-12
IDAHO—Pocatello	June 13-16
ILLINOIS—Springfield	June 7-10
INDIANA—Evansville	June 13-15
IOWA—Des Moines	June 22-24
KANSAS—Topeka	June 8-10
KENTUCKY—Louisville	June 22-24
LOUISIANA—Shreveport	June 22-24
MAINE—Rockland	June 15-17
MARYLAND—Baltimore	June 21-24
MASSACHUSETTS—Springfield	June 22-24
MICHIGAN—Sault Ste. Marie	June 21-24
MINNESOTA—Austin	June 13-16
MISSISSIPPI—Jackson	June 22-24
MISSOURI—Jefferson City	June 15-17
MONTANA—Havre	June 14-16
NEBRASKA—Norfolk	June 9-12
NEVADA—Elko	June 14-16
NEW HAMPSHIRE—Portsmouth	June 9-11
NEW JERSEY—Wildwood	June 27-30
NEW MEXICO—Alamogordo	June 21-25
NEW YORK—Binghamton	June 28-30
NORTH CAROLINA—Wilmington	June 8-10
NORTH DAKOTA—Devils Lake	June 3-5
OHIO—Cleveland	July 5-8
OKLAHOMA—Miami	June 14-17
OREGON—Klamath Falls	June 20-23
PANAMA CANAL ZONE—Cristobal	June 8-9
PENNSYLVANIA—Philadelphia	July 11-14
RHODE ISLAND—Newport	June 22-24
SOUTH CAROLINA—Greenville	May 25-27
SOUTH DAKOTA—Mitchell	June 17-19
TENNESSEE—Knoxville	June 15-17
TEXAS—Houston	June 28-July 1
UTAH—Brigham City	June 1-3
VERMONT—St. Johnsbury	June 1-3
VIRGINIA—Bristol	June 21-24
WASHINGTON—Walla Walla	June 20-23
WEST VIRGINIA—Clarksburg	June 21-24
WISCONSIN—Superior	June 28-30
WYOMING—Jackson	June 8-10



ABOVE: During his recent inspection tour of defense facilities in the western Pacific area, Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen (second from right) visited the air base at Tachikawa, Japan. While there he was presented an oil portrait of himself by Mrs. Martin G. Whalen, whose husband is a member of Post 9876, Yokota, Japan. Left to right: Mrs. Whalen, Whalen, Commander Harry Connick, Post 9876; Paul Perry, Post 9794, Tachikawa, Japan; Hansen and National V.F.W. Deputy Chief of Staff Paul Newman. BELOW: Old enemies met in friendship when Commander-in-Chief Hansen (in uniform as a Naval reservist) was introduced to Admiral Nomoto, Secretary General of the Japan Veterans' Association, at the reception at Tachikawa Air Base. Surrounding the pair are V.F.W. members of Posts 9450, Tokyo; Post 9876, Yokota, and Post 9794, Tachikawa.



Being presented a V.F.W. Citizenship Medal and citation for promoting athletics for youths and funds to build a 3-story ticket office and press building at the Veterans Memorial Football field in Rahway, N.J., is Ralph L. Smith. (center) The award was made at the 37th Annual Dance of the V.F.W. Union County Council at Post 681, Rahway. Second from left is National Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph Lombardo, Brooklyn, N.Y. Others, left to right, Post Commander John Kopik; County Council Senior Vice Commander Roy Brinkerhoff, County Commander Albert Marks.



During its annual Past Commanders' banquet, Post 1307, Elgin, Ill., was honored with the presentation of a Perpetual Charter for having attained a total of 25 life memberships. Left to right: Dept. Commander Arthur Muller, making the presentation; Post Commander Wilbur Miller, Dept. Inspector Ray Soden, Commanding Ray Mann, 5th District, Dept. of Illinois.



Two V.F.W. Resolutions adopted by the Dept. of Pennsylvania are discussed by a Congressman and two V.F.W. officers. They are, left to right, Dept. Adjutant Robert S. Musser, U.S. Representative John C. Kunkel, 16th District, Pa., and Harry J. Armor, Dept. Director of Claims Service. The resolutions urged re-enactment of the Servicemen's Indemnity Act and the establishment of a new national cemetery in Pennsylvania.

MEMBERSHIP

Big Ten Army Holds Lead In Membership Battle

STILL LEADING in the tight membership battle between the four conference Armies at last report was the Big Ten Army with a percentage score of 90.35. The scores in the contest were based on per capita tax transmittals received at the National Headquarters and postmarked through March 31, 1962.

Membership Standings of the four Armies at the end of March were as follows: Big Ten Army, 90.35 per cent; Eastern Army, 88.82 per cent; Western Army, 88.57 per cent; Southern Army, 87.81 per cent.

V.F.W. Chief Appoints New Aides-de-Camp

THE FOLLOWING V.F.W. members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of March.

To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the 1962 dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

The new appointments are as follows:

Roland D. Pruitt, Post 668, Birmingham, Ala.; Robert H. Brown, Post 2702, Huntsville, Ala.; Robert H. Gooden, Post 2278, Hot Springs, Ark.; Albert D. Hall, Post 4447, West Helena, Ark.; Frederick W. Haines, Post 2282, Los Angeles, Calif.; Arthur M. Baker, Post 3802, Santa Monica, Calif.; Robert A. Dean, Post 2024, Chicago, Ill.; Conrad Olson, Post 2153, Moline, Ill.; Paul E. Simon, Post 909, Gary, Ind.; James Chism, Post 56, Leavenworth, Kans.; Charles E. Marshall, Post 3111, Great Bend, Kans.; Harold Pitts, Post 8773, Junction City, Kans.; Willie Graham,

Post 8773, Junction City, Kans.; William Grant Miles, Post 5829, Day, Ky.; Roderick M. Murray, Post 639, Malden, Mass.; Joseph LeVangie, Post 5188, Walpole, Mass.; A. W. Stockstill, Post 3804, Picayune, Miss.; R. T. Pitts, Post 5395, Pontotoc, Miss.; Chester A. Stutes, Post 18, Kansas City, Mo.; Phillip C. Montegna, Post 1087, Great Falls, Mont.; John Ferda, Post 1087, Great Falls, Mont.; Edward J. Schmitz, Post 1125, Glendive, Mont.; Frank Fortunato, Post 2445, Maple Shade, N.J.; William C. Alicata, Post 6699, Paramus, N.J.; Herb Trageser, Sr., Post 569, Fulton, N.Y.; Thomas R. Hughes, Post 1386, Kingston, N.Y.; Wolfgang J. Nauke, Post 1469, Huntington Sta., N.Y.; M. Thomas Gallan, Post 7095, Rosedale, L.I., N.Y.; Roy P. Quinn, Post 891, Asheville, N. C.; Edward Deitz, Post 1874, Grand Forks, N. D.; Thomas O'Shea, Post 1874, Grand Forks, N.D.; Wilbur M. Dorsey, Post 3463, Philadelphia, Ohio; Frank Prevatil, Post 382, El Reno, Okla.; Harvey W. Adams, Post 4574, Ardmore, Okla.; Leland C. Osburn, Post 4876, Altus, Okla.; Jack W. Bennett, Post 7192, Midwest City, Okla.; Henry E. Opyrchal, Post 223, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Paul John Baker, Post 589, West Hazleton, Pa.; William A. Moore, Post 813, DuBois, Pa.; Victor Fangio, Post 1601, Scranton, Pa.; Charles L. Bender, Post 3376, Ephrata, Pa.; Alfred L. Boardman, Post 1273, Rapid City, S.D.; Rollo Santucci, Jr., Post 1965, Memphis, Tenn.; William R. Denny, Post 2108, Johnson City, Tenn.; John R. Perkins, Post 2108, Johnson City, Tenn.; Arnold Simerly, Post 2166, Elizabethton, Tenn.; Thomas J. Crowley, Jr., Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Harold S. Duncan, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; William E. Parker, Post 1848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Jack Rickett, Post 1848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; James E. Vaughn, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Frank P. Cossman, Post 8790, Houston, Tex.; R. G. Parrott, Jr., Post 8790, Houston, Tex.; Elvin P. Sacra, Post 637, Hopewell, Va.; Robert L. Sollars, Post 3518, Keyser, W. Va.



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

General Order No. 8

1961-62 Series

- The following appointments are hereby announced:
Adjutant Deputy Chiefs of Staff
John Turner, Post 1556, Poughontas, Arkansas
Theodore Ferro, Post 1927, Centereach, New York
Charles J. Schnobrich, Jr., Post 3068, Buffalo, New York
Assistant Inspectors General
Charles Darling, Post 4683, Newport, Arkansas
Charles Osborn, Jr., Post 6328, Mechanicsville, New York
Peter F. Mancuso, Post 1041, Ossining, New York
- The attention of all Commanders is directed to Section 223 of the National By-Laws. Commanders of all units will arrange for the observance of Memorial Day. They will see to it that the graves of our comrades are properly marked and cared for. Ceremonies by V. F. W. units, if conducted independently of other organizations, should be in accordance with the Ritual. All comrades are urged to participate in the proper observance of Memorial Day.
- Attention of Department Quartermasters is directed to paragraph (g) under the heading "Duty of Department Quartermaster," Section 517, Manual of Procedure, mandating preparation of a tentative annual budget. The budget shall provide for a dues reserve fund as specified by paragraph (1) same section.
- Attention of retiring and incoming Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, "Duty of Trustees." This is especially important to both retiring and incoming Commanders. Form P-113, Trustees Report of Audit, must be prepared in detail at the close of each quarter, subject to penalties of Section 213.
- Department and Deputy Inspectors will intensify their efforts to forward inspection reports for every Post prior to the Department Convention.

- Resolutions for consideration of the 63rd National Convention must first be approved by the Department Convention. Promptly following the close of the Department Convention, the Department Adjutant will transmit a copy of each approved resolution to the Adjutant General. Each resolution should bear a title and number for identification purposes.
- Proposed amendments to the National By-Laws must be in proper form and must be approved by the Department Convention. Such proposals should be specific and definite as to the section, line or paragraph to be amended, with exact wording of additions or deletions.
- So much of paragraph 15, General Orders No. 9, 1960-61 series, as announced the authorization of charter to Post No. 8858, New York, New York, is hereby rescinded, the Post never having been instituted.
- Announcement is made of the change of location of the following Posts in accordance with Section 206 of the National By-Laws:
Land-O-Lakes Post No. 8684 from Rapid City, Michigan, to Kalkaska, Michigan.
Ohio Twin City Post No. 2374 from Dayton, Ohio, to Fairborn, Ohio.
- Announcement is hereby made of the authorization of charters to the following Posts:
No. 764, McMurray (Peters Township), Pa.
No. 1596, Metamora, Ill.
No. 2061, Orange Cove, Calif.
No. 2508, Lilbourn, Mo.
No. 3052, Ridgefield, Conn.
No. 5620, Genoa, Texas
- No. 6261, Northglenn, Colo.
No. 6308, Sun City, Ariz.
No. 6789, Window Rock, Ariz.
No. 6883, Bonne Terre, Mo.
No. 7386, Derby, Colo.

Official:
JULIAN DICKENSON
Adjutant General

By-Command of:
ROBERT E. HANSEN
Commander-in-Chief



SEVEN DIVISION CONTEST

• All standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters and postmarked through March 31, 1962

DIVISION I (Departments over 45,000)		DIVISION V (Departments between 10,000 and 15,000)	
1. Minnesota	93.64	1. Louisiana	96.51
2. Illinois	90.73	2. Maryland	92.22
3. Pennsylvania	89.77	3. South Dakota	91.28
4. Michigan	88.42	4. Florida	86.82
5. Ohio	87.55	5. Virginia	86.66
6. California	86.79	6. Colorado	85.67
7. New York	86.59	7. Oklahoma	81.96
DIVISION II (Departments between 30,000 and 45,000)		DIVISION VI (Departments between 5,000 and 10,000)	
1. Indiana	92.31	1. Arizona	99.38
2. New Jersey	92.21	2. Montana	91.16
3. Kansas	90.26	3. North Dakota	89.94
4. Massachusetts	89.13	4. Oregon	88.55
5. Texas	85.21	5. Wyoming	87.47
DIVISION III (Departments between 20,000 and 30,000)		6. Rhode Island	87.41
1. Georgia	93.65	7. Maine	84.01
2. Missouri	92.18	8. New Mexico	83.38
3. Iowa	90.00	9. New Hampshire	83.35
4. Nebraska	89.62	10. South Carolina	81.66
5. Tennessee	87.22	11. Arkansas	81.63
6. Wisconsin	86.86	DIVISION VII (Departments under 5,000)	
DIVISION IV (Departments between 15,000 and 20,000)		1. District of Columbia	93.43
1. Connecticut	94.38	2. Hawaii	89.29
2. Alabama	93.44	3. Utah	88.83
3. Washington	93.02	4. Nevada	87.32
4. West Virginia	90.70	5. Idaho	86.98
5. North Carolina	86.08	6. Vermont	83.30
6. Mississippi	84.63	7. Delaware	82.44
7. Kentucky	81.89	8. Panama Canal Zone	74.15
		9. Alaska	66.50

ORDER OF PARADE

NATIONAL AVERAGE—89.06

1. Arizona	99.38	27. Ohio	87.55
2. Louisiana	96.51	28. Wyoming	87.47
3. Connecticut	94.38	29. Rhode Island	87.41
4. Georgia	93.65	30. Nevada	87.32
5. Minnesota	93.64	31. Tennessee	87.22
6. Alabama	93.44	32. Idaho	86.98
7. District of Col.	93.43	33. Wisconsin	86.86
8. Washington	93.02	34. Florida	86.82
9. Indiana	92.31	35. California	86.79
10. Maryland	92.22	36. Virginia	86.66
11. New Jersey	92.21	37. New York	86.59
12. Missouri	92.18	38. North Carolina	86.08
13. South Dakota	91.28	39. Colorado	85.67
14. Montana	91.16	40. Texas	85.21
15. Illinois	90.75	41. Mississippi	84.63
16. West Virginia	90.70	42. Maine	84.01
17. Kansas	90.26	43. New Mexico	83.38
18. Iowa	90.00	44. New Hampshire	83.35
19. North Dakota	89.94	45. Vermont	83.30
20. Pennsylvania	89.77	46. Delaware	82.44
21. Nebraska	89.62	47. Oklahoma	81.96
22. Hawaii	89.29	48. Kentucky	81.89
23. Massachusetts	89.13	49. South Carolina	81.66
24. Utah	88.83	50. Arkansas	81.63
25. Oregon	88.55	51. Panama Canal Zone	74.15
26. Michigan	88.42	52. Alaska	66.50

POSTS OF 1,000 OR MORE MEMBERS

112 Wichita, Kansas	2,254	628 Sioux Falls, South Dakota	1,298
1990 Greenville, Tennessee	2,034	3851 Carmi, Illinois	1,280
3382 Kingsport, Tennessee	1,762	589 Hazleton, Pennsylvania	1,260
283 Kingston, Pennsylvania	1,760	548 Morgantown, West Virginia	1,250
668 Birmingham, Alabama	1,730	155 Johnstown, Pennsylvania	1,235
1874 Grand Forks, North Dakota	1,725	6896 Detroit, Michigan	1,228
2702 Huntsville, Alabama	1,628	2193 Maywood, Illinois	1,203
4848 Chattanooga, Tennessee	1,531	2166 Elizabethton, Tennessee	1,184
131 Lincoln, Nebraska	1,524	1114 Evansville, Indiana	1,184
687 Jackson, Mississippi	1,466	3579 Park Ridge, Illinois	1,163
47 Uniontown, Pennsylvania	1,445	1650 Topeka, Kansas	1,153
2825 Chicago Heights, Illinois	1,396	2055 Centralia, Illinois	1,146
49 Mobile, Alabama	1,374	271 Bronx, New York	1,139
1216 Austin, Minnesota	1,358	3181 Florence, South Carolina	1,132
762 Fargo, North Dakota	1,328	1857 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	1,119
428 St. Cloud, Minnesota	1,309	3580 Blue Island, Illinois	1,088
		875 West Los Angeles, California	1,044

COMMANDERS OF THE MONTH



Arnold C. Ringstad
MINNESOTA



Audie W. Rainbolt
INDIANA



Julian M. Brisendine
GEORGIA



James L. Lusby
CONNECTICUT



Joseph E. Nicotro
LOUISIANA



Kenton E. Scott
ARIZONA



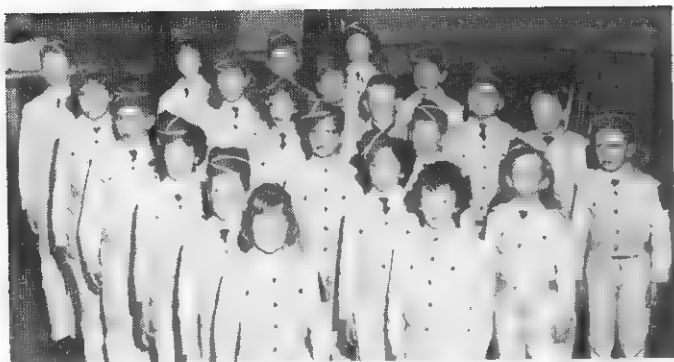
Robert E. Sargent
DIST. OF COLUMBIA

• Lively competition in Division IV for Commander-of-the-Month honors led to another upset in that Division during the month of March. Commander James L. Lusby, Connecticut, a winner last November, came back to replace three-time winner Ravee N. Hughes, Alabama.

The title of Commander-of-the-Month goes to those Commanders whose Departments lead in membership each month in each of the seven membership divisions. The March winners, with their total number of wins are:

Arnold C. Ringstad, Div. I, Minn. (3); Audie W. Rainbolt, Div. II, Ind. (6); Julian M. Brisendine, Div. III, Ga. (3); James L. Lusby, Div. IV, Conn. (2); Joseph E. Nicotro, Div. V, La. (6); Kenton E. Scott, Div. VI, Ariz. (6); Robert E. Sargent, Div. VII, Dist. of Col. (6).

Departments with a 1961 membership of less than 2,000 members as of Dec. 31, 1961, are not eligible for this contest.



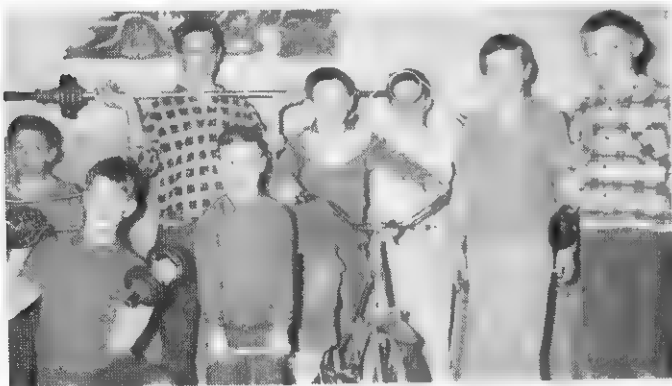
Now veterans of three parades are these members of the junior drill team organized and sponsored by Post 2605, Carbondale, Ill., its Ladies Auxillary, and Cootie Pup Tent 29. The sponsoring units are planning to convert the group into a drum and bugle corps in the near future.



Sporting a new V.F.W. blanket is "Sindie Lee," a winner at the Union County Fair harness races. Post 3455, Anna, Ill., yearly presents a blanket to one of the winning horses. The driver is Ollie Gamble. At the left are Benton Hancock and Brenda Bedwell, his granddaughter.



Still champions in their division of the Rupert, Idaho, Knothole League is this 10-12-year-old girls team sponsored by Post 3678. The team also won the championship during the 1960 season in 8-10-year-old novice division. Standing extreme left is Roland Schettler, team manager.



Demonstrating equipment at the Thermopolis, Wyo., Youth Center are eight young stalwarts of the community who regularly use facilities there. The center was rescued from financial demise recently by V.F.W. Post 2281. In conjunction with another public service organization, the Post agreed to sponsor the center. The center, which has a soda fountain, is open to all children and features dances on Friday nights.



POST NEWS

Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts

● To perennially honor the late John J. Queenan, former Quartermaster of Post 5988, a 10-mile road race is held each summer at nearby Bourne, Mass., where Mr. Queenan lived. First sponsored by the Post in 1960 as the Cape Cod Road Race, its name was changed last year to the John J. Queenan Memorial Race. It has drawn some of America's best distance runners and was last won by John Gutknecht, a 24-year-old student. He edged Olympic performer John Kelley with a time of 53 minutes, four seconds. Queenan's 7-year-old son, John J. Queenan, Jr., congratulated the winner and placed a Grecian wreath on his head. Comrade Queenan was named on several All-America football teams when he played at Boston College in 1945. At the Buzzards Bay Post he was active in coaching and promoting athletic events for young people.

Coldwater, Michigan

● Harry Richards of Post 3745 was recently hospitalized at Elko, Nev., following a motor vehicle accident. In addition to neck injuries, doctors diagnosed a tubercular condition. They advised against moving him overland to a Michigan hospital where he could be near his family. Apprised of Richard's dilemma, Ray Truex, Commander of Post 3745, solicited financial aid to charter a plane and fly Richards to the Veterans Administration hospital at Ann Arbor, Mich. Members of the Coldwater Eagle's Club as well as V.F.W. men donated generously. The plane Truex chartered was forced down at Rockflat, Wyo., by bad weather. Undaunted, Truex rented a car, drove to Elko and made arrangements for Richards' release. Bad weather persisted and, ironically, the trip to Ann Arbor was made successfully by automobile.

Solvay, New York

● V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen recently took part in the dedication of a unique Post home. A Catholic church of local historical significance was donated to Post 2893 by the St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Dismantled in three sections and transported to the site of the present Post, it was installed on a new foundation. The building now serves the double purpose of preserving historic flavor and providing new V.F.W. facilities. Functions included a colorful parade and a dinner. In his address, Hansen chastised American businessmen who indirectly deal with Cuba through Canada and South American countries.

Everett, Washington

● The Chamber of Commerce here recently honored Mrs. Kurt Kallstrom, director of community service for the V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliaries Western Division, for civic services performed by her as an active member of Post 2100. She was named a co-winner of the Chamber's "Citizen of the Year" award.

Post 2100 recently honored other local civic organizations for their assistance in promoting community services and working with a humanitarian unity of purpose.

Silver Spring, Maryland

● Post 2562 and the National Jewish War Veterans recently joined efforts here in presenting a program for about 50 Camp Fire Girls entitled, "Appreciation of the American Flag." Miniature, 50-star flags and booklets entitled, "You And Your Flag," were distributed. Enthusiasm was generated by the program and the girls have since formed a color guard. In addition, the veterans organizations have been asked to repeat the program for larger groups of Camp Fire girls and their junior league, the Blue Birds.

Warrensburg, Missouri

● Post 2513 has bestowed the last three digits of its designation upon a Boy Scout troop it recently organized. Troop 513 recently held its first court of honor at the Post home.

LET'S LEGALIZE F.B.I. WIRETAPPING

(Continued from page 17)

it slip your minds that the first, and by far the most important thing, is to restore the infant alive to his parents. Make everything else secondary."

Unfortunately, our precautions were in vain. The baby was already dead, killed by the kidnaper, Bruno Richard Hauptmann, a German immigrant. But every G-man working on the case—and that included practically every member of the Bureau—worked on the premise the baby was still alive and cooperated wholeheartedly with the family to protect the infant from harm. The hunter instincts of FBI agents were subordinated to methods of investigation that would tend to reassure the kidnaper and prevent his murdering the hostage.

In every kidnapping case the approach used by the FBI is the same:

First, make every effort to recover the victim unharmed. Second, catch the kidnaper.

How then was it possible for the Bureau to take advantage of wiretapping in the Lindbergh case? Would not the life of the infant be put in jeopardy if the kidnaper discovered his conversations with the family were monitored?

The FBI made certain he would not. No one but the agents knew the wires had been tapped as it was done in the utmost secrecy. Every minute of the day and night, agents listened on the line—waiting for a significant word or two that might lead to the infant's recovery, or provide a clue to his whereabouts.

Much valuable information that has broken many a kidnapping case has been gained in this fashion.

The reason I have stressed the use of wiretapping in kidnapping cases is that the present situation with regard to the activities of enemy agents is similar.

From captured Nazi enemy agents during World War II, I learned constant telephone contacts were made between them. They spoke in code. In their language the word "merchant" meant an enemy agent. "Merchandise" referred to a stolen military secret. "Furs" denoted blueprints, or similar plans, they had obtained from airplane factories, shipyards or other defense plants.

Code language furnished no problem for the FBI. The examples of key words I have given are still typical of telephone codes used by enemy agents today. Every man engaged in counter-espionage knows well the patterns they follow.

More intricate codes are also readily broken by the Bureau which has a staff of experts capable of interpreting complex verbal codes in short order.

U.S. agents are sometimes amused at the false security enemy agents feel in their double-talk. It takes the trained

expert only a few minutes to analyze the gist of camouflaged messages.

In FBI roundups of Mann-Act violators, one of its best assets in the past has been the tapped telephone wire.

From their booking offices we heard the master procurers of the "white slave" trade talk with customers in other cities. We quickly caught on to the terms they used in concealing their business.

"We're sending you three packages today", one would say.

A "package" meant a girl. It was not the girls themselves who were the Bureau's target. They were merely pawns in a vicious racket. The FBI was after the men controlling prostitution along the eastern seaboard and was successful to a large degree in gaining convictions.

Few persons know it was an ironclad rule of the Bureau that no agent was to tap a wire without Mr. Hoover's personal permission. It was not left to the agent's judgment whether the circumstances warranted such procedure.

The FBI is severely handicapped in its campaign to protect national security because wiretapping evidence is not admissible in federal courts. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's recent plea to Congress to enact legislation legalizing such evidence makes clear the attitude of the Department of Justice. Kennedy asked that wiretapping evidence be made admissible in federal courts regarding four major crimes: sabotage, espionage, kidnapping and extortion.

It is difficult for me to understand how any one can doubt the wisdom of granting our federal agents this means to help protect our national security.

J. Edgar Hoover has developed the FBI into the world's most efficient crime-detecting agency. To enlarge it, and remove restrictions which hamper its activities, would in no way make it akin to the Russian O.G.P.U., a secret police force which uses terror tactics.

But it would improve the Bureau's ability to cope with matters pertaining to the internal security of the United States.

[The End]

• Editor's Note: Legislative hearings have been conducted on the issue of legalizing wiretapping evidence in the federal courts pertaining to the crimes of sabotage, espionage, kidnapping and extortion. Although, not admissible in federal courts, wiretapping evidence is permitted in some state courts, such as New York, where it has recently been used to gain convictions in prostitution and gambling cases.

The FBI reports it can tap telephone wires in the course of an investigation concerning national security if given permission by the U.S. Attorney General. Even though recordings of telephone conversations are not admissible in federal courts at the present time, the information gained in this fashion frequently helps uncover evidence that is admissible.

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15 to 45	2500	65 to 80	500

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3. Height? 3a. Weight?
4. Occupation, kind of work?
- 4a Name and address of employer?
5. Race?
6. Beneficiary and relationship to you?
7. To your knowledge have you had heart, lung, diabetes, cancer, or chronic disease? Are you deformed, lost a hand, foot, eye, or ever rejected for insurance?
8. State condition of health.
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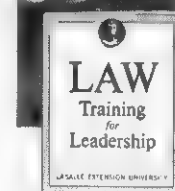
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CAPITOL DIGEST

(Continued from page 16)

Pensions: H.R. 8282 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Proposes there will be no reduction of pension during hospitalization of veterans with wife or child.

Rights of Survivors: H.R. 8415 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Provides that brothers and sisters be eliminated from receiving payment of veterans' benefits withheld during lifetime of deceased veterans while being furnished hospital or domiciliary care.

Waiver of Certain Housing Debts: H.R. 8802 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Provides that the Veterans Administrator may waive recovery of certain housing indebtedness if he determines "that the default arose out of compelling reasons without fault on the part of the veteran or that collection of the indebtedness would otherwise work a severe hardship upon the veteran."

Changes in Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans Administration: H.R. 8992 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Makes certain administrative changes in operation of Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans Administration.

Medical Research: H.R. 10069 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Would permit the Veterans Administration to spend more than the present \$1 million limitation on prosthetic research. The VA research program not only helps seriously disabled veterans but all mankind.

Assignment of NSLI: H.R. 10669 by Mr. Teague of Texas—Liberalizes assignment provisions of National Service Life Insurance policies.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON VETERANS' LEGISLATION:

Direct Home Loans: On House side Veterans Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Housing, headed by Chairman Frank Boykin, Alabama, conducted hearing concerning why the Veterans Administration has not utilized all of the funds made available by the Housing Act authorized by P.L. 87-84 during first session of 87th Congress. The V.F.W. stated: "Keenly disappointed that all of this money authorized for

the Direct Loan Program has not been utilized. . . . There are still many veterans unable to go forward to obtain a new home. . . . Veterans residing in small towns or rural areas should have same opportunity for . . . new home as veterans living in urban areas." The Subcommittee recommended that the Veterans Administration request as promptly as possible an advance of the full amount authorized for direct loans by P.L. 87-84.

On the Senate side the Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee headed by Ralph Yarborough, Texas, has held hearings on the following bills:

Medical Research: S. 2812 by Senators Hill, Alabama, and Yarborough, Texas—Is similar to H.R. 10069 which has already passed the House and would remove the present \$1 million limitation on prosthetic research by Veterans Administration.

For Blind Veterans: S. 2869 by Senator Yarborough—Would give certain blind veterans additional time to apply for vocational rehabilitation under certain conditions.

GI Housing Loans: S. 3024 by Senators Yarborough, Texas, and Sparkman, Alabama—Would extend the maximum maturity of Veterans Administration GI Home Loans from 30 to 35 years.

Autos for Veterans: S. 3108 by Senator Yarborough would authorize a grant of \$1600 for auto or other conveyance for peacetime veterans who have lost one of their extremities.

Liberalization of Hospital Requirements: S. 3109 by Mr. Yarborough of Texas—Authorizes hospital treatment and medical care for peacetime veterans suffering from a service-connected non-compensable condition (presently for a peacetime veteran disability must be 10 per cent or more for the veterans to receive medical treatment by the Veterans Administration.)

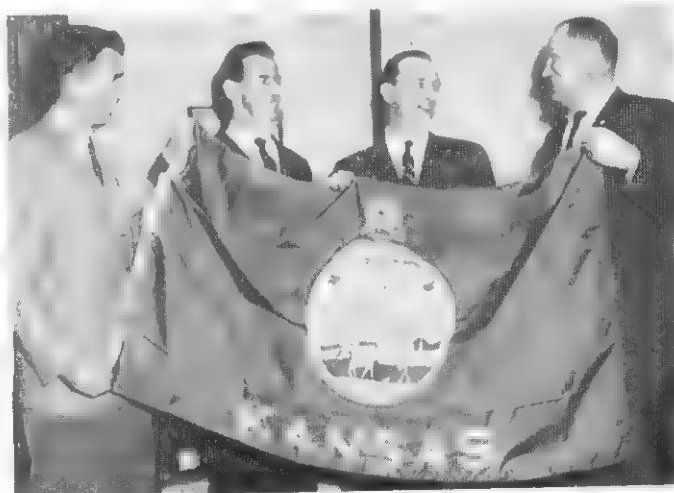
BILLS APPROVED BY THE SENATE AND PENDING IN THE HOUSE:

Educational Benefits: S. 2697 by Senators Yarborough of Texas and Jackson of Washington—Waives certain time limitations for veterans eligible under Korean GI Bill or children of service-connected deceased veterans under War Orphans Educational Program who were called up for active duty or whose period of service was extended because of Berlin crisis.

[The End]



These representatives of the V.F.W. and Navy gathered to honor a company of "boots" which recently qualified to have their company listed on the "Hall of Fame" plaque which was given by the V.F.W. to the Great Lakes Training Center, Ill. Naval Company 17 was the first in more than two years to compile enough competitive points to receive the honor at the base. A V.F.W. plaque was also awarded the unit. Left to right C/Bo's'n T. P. O'Dowd, Co. 17's drill instructor; V.F.W. Dept. Commander Arthur Muller, CPO J. C. Pascale, V.F.W. District Commander R. J. Mann, and Lieutenant (jg) John De Laura.



Receiving a new Kansas State flag, made to the specifications set by the 1961 State legislature, is U.S. Senator James B. Pearson, (second from right), Mission, Kans. Pearson was appointed by Gov. John Anderson to fulfill the unexpired term of the late Sen. Andrew F. Schoepel. The V.F.W. Dept. of Kansas provided the flag, which was presented Pearson at the Senate Office Building in Washington by two fellow Kansans of the V.F.W. Washington Office—Omar Ketchum, Executive Director, (right) and Norman Jones, National Rehabilitation Director (left center). Left, John Conard, Sen. Pearson's administrative assistant.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

Letter from Medal of Honor Winner Recalls Daring Deed in 1900

• History came brightly alive at the Veterans Benefits Office in Washington, D.C., one day recently, recalling a glorious moment of American military daring. That moment was the scaling of the city wall by U.S. troops at Peking, China, during the Boxer Rebellion in 1900.

Bringing the episode to life was a letter from the man who had gone over the wall first. He wrote to express his appreciation over the recent increase in his Medal of Honor pension from \$10 to \$100 a month. He is Lt. Col. C. P. Titus, U.S. Army (Ret.), 82, of North Hollywood, Calif.

"It was certainly nice of you to send me a personal letter about that new pension for Medal of Honor men," Colonel Titus wrote. "President Kennedy signed that Bill on (of all dates) Aug. 14, 1961. It was on Aug. 14, 1900, that I won the Medal by being the first to scale the Peking, China, wall in our attack on that city in the Boxer War!

"After the city was taken, (I was a bugler at the time) our regimental adjutant asked me whether I would rather be recommended for a Certificate of Merit. This award carried \$3.00 more pay a month. So I gave up \$3.00 in preferring the Medal of Honor and now get \$100 a month!

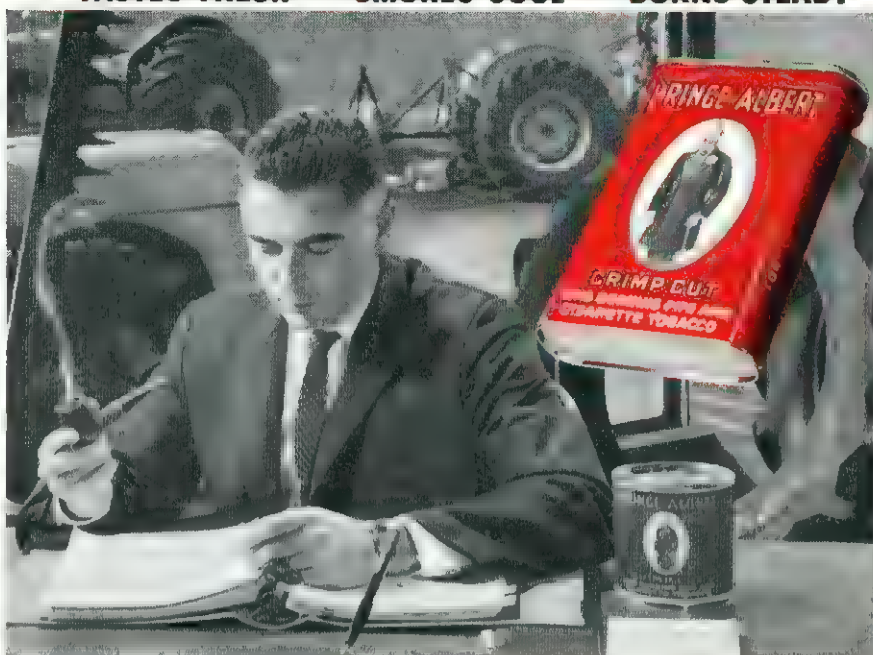
"Of course, three bucks was quite a bit of money in those days when my pay was only \$13 a month. They even held out twenty-five cents for the Old Soldiers Home there in Washington.

"For that Peking affair, I got a big reward, President McKinley appointed me to West Point and there, one morning during the Academy's 100th anniversary celebration, the Corps was turned out in full dress and a trembling little plebe was called to the front. President Theodore Roosevelt himself pinned that Medal of Honor on my full dress uniform."

Colonel Titus wrote his letter to Manager George L. Holland of the Veterans Benefit Office in Washington who had sent a personal letter to each Medal of Honor recipient, informing him of the new payment provisions.

The proof is in the puffing!

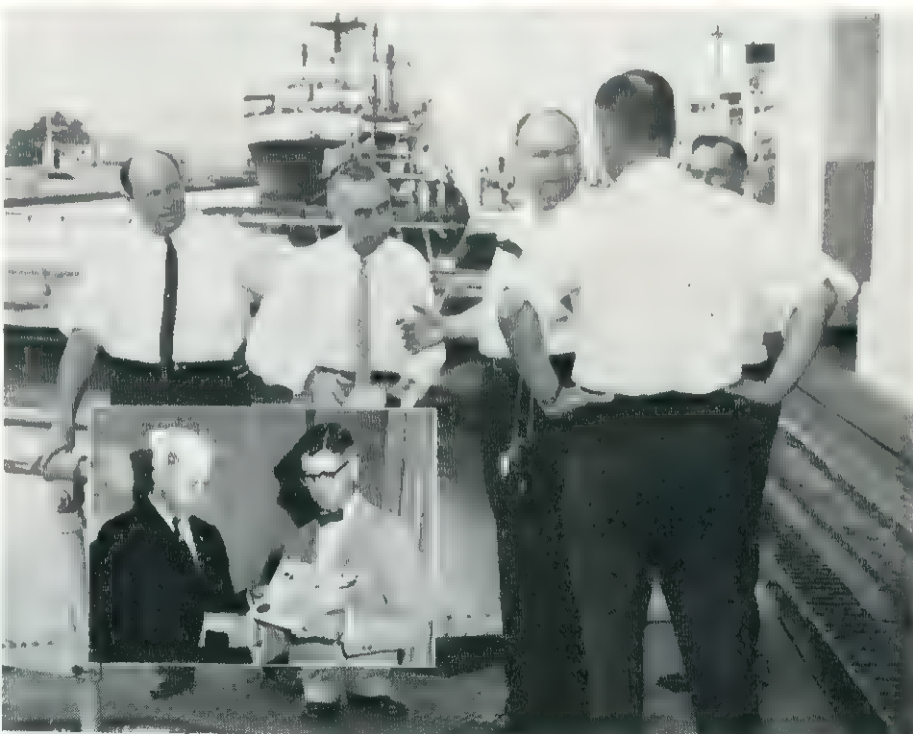
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PRINCE ALBERT



A question on the operation of the Miraflores Locks in the Panama Canal System is posed by V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen (third from left) as he talks to Capt. Richard G. Jack (back to camera) Director of the Canal's Marine Bureau. Partly obscured by Captain Jack at the far right is Elmer G. Abbott, Assistant Balboa Port Captain. Others pictured, left to right, F. A. Baldwin, Special assistant of the Panamanian gubernatorial and presidential office, and Roy C. Stockman, Chief of the Locks. Hansen traveled part way through the Canal from Balboa, on the Gulf of Panama adjoining the Pacific Ocean, to the Gaillard Cut—currently undergoing a multi-million-dollar construction project to widen it from 300 to 500 feet. The inset shows Hansen being presented a certificate making him an honorary Lockmaster of the Canal by W. P. Leber, Acting Governor of the Panama Canal Zone. Hansen toured the Canal Zone between past visits on the Isthmus of Panama.

A MILITARY REPORT TO THE NATION

(Continued from page 11)

conversion of 32 others. Among the new ships will be, a conventionally powered aircraft carrier, a nuclear powered guided-missile frigate, nuclear submarines, amphibious ships, and escort vessels.

The conversion program largely deals with modernizing destroyers. The Navy will also be provided more aircraft, mostly combat types. Attack, reconnaissance, and anti-submarine airplanes are among the types to be acquired.

Missile purchases will include the "Sidewinder" and "Sparrow", air-to-air types; the "Terrier", "Tartar", and "Talos", surface-to-air; the "Bullpup" and "Shrike", air-to-surface, and "Subroc", a submarine-launched, anti-submarine missile. Large quantities of conventional rockets, bombs, torpedoes, mines and other ordnance will also be furnished.

The Marine Corps will have its variety of weapons and supporting equipment bolstered generously as well.

The tactical fighter forces of the Air Force will be expanded on a modernized scale by addition of all weather F-105's, and the versatile F4H fighters. Development work on more advanced, long range, fighter aircraft, for use by the Air Force and Navy alike, will be substantially expanded in 1963. A sizable increase in the production of new and more effective non-nuclear types of ordnance and modification of aircraft currently in use to increase their load capacities, is receiving emphasis.

Expanding and modernizing the Sea-lift and Airlift Forces is another immediate project. Major items for it are acquisition of new C-141 jet transports and additional C-130-E types.

Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, has made this report on the recent accomplishments of his department.

"We have strengthened our nuclear strike force, so that it is a more powerful deterrent to potential aggressors. We have increased the capability of our

strategic forces to survive even a massive attack, and we have improved our command and control arrangements so that the temptation to an aggressor to attempt another Pearl Harbor is considerably reduced. We have added to our non-nuclear forces, so that the range of military options open to us is greatly increased. We have assumed a new and expanded program for civil defense so that we can improve our non-military defenses, along with our military defenses, against the distant but terrible possibility of a major thermonuclear exchange."

By way of justifying the huge expenditures necessary, military and otherwise, to combat the advance of Communism in the world, Secretary McNamara had this to say before a congressional committee earlier this year:

"It should be clear to all Americans that we cannot enhance our own safety . . . on the slippery road of appeasement. It can only lead to our isolation and ultimately to disaster. It would inevitably lead to the breakdown of the NATO alliance and to a loss of confidence in the strength and purpose of the United States—everywhere.

"For the sake of our own safety we must be prepared to defend the outposts of freedom around the world. We must be ready to meet the Communist challenge in its various forms using whatever means—military, economic, political, or ideological—best serves the purpose. We cannot, and need not, do this job alone. Our allies around the world have great and growing economic and military strength. What is needed is a unity of purpose—a common determination to use this strength effectively in the collective defense of the free world alliance."

McNamara also reported to congressmen that in his opinion military power alone cannot solve all of our country's problems. Diplomacy, economic assistance and ideological conviction all have

their roles to play in the struggle to safeguard freedom.

"The principal purpose of our military program, including military assistance, is to deter the Communists from resorting to the use of armed force in seeking to achieve their objectives," McNamara said.

"Even here, the line of demarcation is far from clear. As we have seen in recent months, the Communists have stepped up what Mr. Khrushchev calls 'Wars of National Liberation' or 'Popular Revolt' and which we know is covert armed aggression, guerrilla warfare, and subversion. To meet this form of Communist threat, new means must be devised."

A policy adopted by the Department of Defense in the spring of 1961 is still applicable. The policy calls for a greater degree of versatility for forces of war. However, in limited war situations, such as developed in Korea in 1950, it is the policy to make use of tactical nuclear weapons, if feasible. But in pointing out the need for more conventional might, the policy states that the decision to employ tactical nuclear weapons in limited conflicts should not be forced upon us simply because we have no other means to cope with them. This has long been the position of the V.F.W.

According to Roswell L. Gilpatric, Deputy Secretary of Defense, the ability of the United States to deter Communist action, or resist Communist blackmail, is based on a sober appreciation of the relative military power of the two sides. Gilpatric said the United States has a nuclear retaliatory force of such lethal power that an enemy move which brought it into play would constitute an act of self destruction.

"Our forces are so deployed and protected that a sneak attack could not effectively disarm us," Gilpatric said. "The destructive power which the United States could bring to bear, even after a Soviet surprise attack upon our forces, would be as great—perhaps greater—than the total undamaged force which the enemy can threaten to launch against the United States in a first strike. Therefore we are confident the Soviets will



Pictured at the recent Service Officers' Conference in New York City are some of the 100 V.F.W. Service Officers from 17 eastern and midwest states who attended. Norman D. Jones, National Service Officer and Director, V.F.W. National Rehabilitation Service, is at the right in white cap. U.S. Representative Richard L. Roudebush, Past Commander-in-Chief and Chairman of the V.F.W. National Welfare and Service Committee was present.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

not provoke a major nuclear conflict."

Because the United States and Russia are at a suicidal impasse where nuclear warfare is concerned, world attention is now turned to the race between the two nations to control outer space—and reach the moon.

A Russian edge in this sphere of effort became apparent during the International Geophysical Year which started in 1957. The Soviet Union electrified the world by launching Sputnik I, followed by additional rockets pushing increasingly large payloads.

This scientific feat enabled the Soviet Union to wield an impressive international propaganda club. The Russian Bear boasted it had surpassed America's Uncle Sam in the field of science. Such was not the case, however. An examination of military policies adopted by both nations following World War II clarifies the situation.

Following the war, top officials of the United States felt that heavy bombers reduced the urgency of developing long-range ballistic missiles, but the Soviet Union concentrated their efforts in this field. The cumbersome weight of nuclear warheads at that time led the Soviets to develop powerful rocket engines for their transport. United States leaders did not feel that ICBM's were feasible until 1954 when a means to reduce the size of nuclear warheads was perfected.

As a result the Soviet Union was well ahead of the United States in the development of large rocket engines, capable of carrying heavy payloads, when the Geophysical Year commenced. Superior rocket engines constitute the only advantage of consequence the Russians possess over the United States in the race to control space. It is a lead being rapidly reduced by an intense United States effort in this field.

President Kennedy called for an all out effort in placing an American expedition on the moon during this decade preferably ahead of the Soviets. However, the President is hopeful that space ventures might be made international projects of mutual cooperation for the benefit of all nations.

John W. McCormack, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, considers the space program vital to national security, and one which will pay for itself economically by greatly expanding our industry, employment and scientific knowledge. He wrote:

"It will enhance our international prestige and sense of national purpose. It is hard to imagine a program which is more worth doing and which will make a greater return to every part of our national life.

"The missile and space age is bringing great challenges which our nation is prepared to meet with resolution. The way will not be easy, but we have no other choice. The rewards will be in proportion to the efforts we make."

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★ V.F.W. Million Dollar PAGEANT OF DRUMS

★ 63rd National Convention

Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 10-17, 1962

• Pursuant to action by the V.F.W. National Council of Administration, the cash prize awards in many of the various categories of competition at the annual V.F.W. Pageant of Drums have been increased. Following is the new listing of cash prizes to be awarded at the Pageant of Drums competition at the 63rd V.F.W. National Convention at Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 10-17, 1962.

Senior Closed Class Corps

1st	\$1,200.00
2nd	750.00
3rd	550.00
4th	400.00

Junior Drum and Bugle Corps

1st	\$1,000.00	6th ..	\$200.00
2nd	750.00	7th ..	150.00
3rd	600.00	8th ..	100.00
4th	400.00	9th ..	100.00
5th	300.00	10th ..	100.00

Senior Bands

1st	\$1,200.00
2nd	850.00
3rd	450.00

Junior Bands

1st	\$1,000.00	4th ..	\$400.00
2nd	750.00	5th ..	300.00
3rd	500.00	6th ..	200.00

Men's Senior Rifle Drill Teams

1st	\$300.00	3rd ..	\$200.00
2nd	250.00	4th ..	150.00

Ladies' Drill Teams

1st	\$250.00
2nd	150.00
3rd	100.00

Junior Boys' Rifle Drill Teams

1st	\$200.00
2nd	150.00
3rd	100.00

Junior Girls' Drill Teams

CLASS A		CLASS B	
1st	\$250.00	1st	\$125.00
2nd	200.00	2nd	75.00
3rd	100.00	3rd	50.00

ENTRY APPLICATION FORMS

Obtain Pageant of Drums entry forms from Dept. Adjutants and/or Quartermasters or Dept. Contest Directors. They must be received not later than Aug. 1 by Anton J. Schlechta, V.F.W. Director of Musical Activities, 6200 - 7th Street South, St. Petersburg 5, Fla.

HOUSING APPLICATION FORMS

• Application forms for housing of units may be obtained by writing to Chairman, Housing for Musical and Uniformed Groups, 63rd V.F.W. National Convention Corp., Hotel Leamington, Minneapolis, Minn.

MINNESOTA — STAR OF THE NORTH

(Continued from page 15)

panse are huge stands of timber, rocky headlands, cold, rushing trout streams, and roaring water falls. Camping areas, motels and resorts girdle it in large number.

Minnesota might be called the fishing capital of the continent. Most famed of our fishing states, it has earned the reputation by keeping its multiplicity of waters well stocked with scrappy game specimens. Some lakes average as many as 40 fish to the acre and the estimated average annual catch is calculated at 20 million pounds. It consistently leads all other states in the sale of fishing licenses. There were 1,404,103 sold in 1960.

According to the Sportfishing Institute, the Largemouth Bass is America's most popular game fish. It is found in almost every area of Minnesota and plentiful catches of these thrashing fighters are reported yearly in the Twin Cities area.

Some other fish sought by sportsmen, for which Minnesota has become famous, are the Walleye, Muskellunge, Lake and Stream Trout, Crappie and Pike.

Minnesota leads all other states in the propagation of Walleyes because of their delicious table qualities. They are a specie of perch, though often mistaken for Pike.

The carnivorous Muskellunge, or "Musky," has a mean disposition enforced by a set of razor sharp teeth affixed in a menacing snout. Due to its size and fighting qualities it is a highly prized catch. Perhaps the ticklish challenge of landing and subduing one without sacrificing a finger or two in the process provides an added appeal to the more adventuresome anglers. This huge marauder is found most abundantly around the Chippewa National Forest. The largest of record taken from Minnesota waters weighed 56 pounds, 8 ounces.

A cousin of the "Musky" is the Great Northern Pike or Jackfish. One should also watch his fingers landing this battler. It, too, is equipped with an impressive set of incisors. Catches weighing more than 45 pounds have been verified and it is found in almost all the lakes and streams of Minnesota.

Lake Trout, sometimes mistakenly called "landlocked salmon," are now most populous in deep northern lakes of St. Louis and Lake Counties. The Lamprey menace has seriously depleted its supply in Lake Superior but is successfully being combatted with chemicals.

Rainbow, Brown and Brook Trout all flourish in fast, clear and cold streams. A large concentration of such waters is

found in the counties bordering Lake Superior. Browns are also plentiful in the Whitewater River of southern Minnesota and the Straight River near Park Rapids.

Black Crappie inhabit all the waters of Minnesota while its white counterpart favors southern sectors of the state. They travel in schools, and once located, are simple to catch. Like most panfish, they search out bottoms featuring lush vegetation. Fish gourmets seek them for their palatability.

But what of other sports?

Swimming, sailboating, water skiing, golf, canoeing, hiking, horseback riding, archery, picnicking, tennis and sunbathing, are all prevalent pastimes in the Twin Cities.

About 300 golf courses are scattered over Minnesota's huge expanse with 11 private, and five, 18-hole, municipal courses, located in Minneapolis, and seven public and eight private clubs in St. Paul. Several of the municipal courses have large clubhouses operated the year around. Baseball fans may view the Minnesota Twins, one of the lately chartered big league baseball clubs, in the 61½-million dollar Metropolitan Stadium. Other games can be watched on one of Minneapolis' 51 baseball diamonds. In addition there are 159 softball fields in the city and 200 tennis courts.

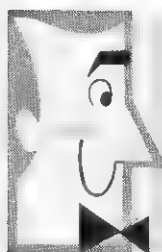
Lawns, streams, trees, lakes and gardens have been incorporated in the famed park systems of the Twin Cities. There are 153 parks in all, providing 1-acre of facilities to each 104 residents. Como Park Zoo in St. Paul annually attracts about a million visitors to its 18 acres of rolling woodland.

For those interested in industry and agriculture there is much to be seen. The world's five largest milling companies are headquartered at Minneapolis and tours of these can be arranged. The Twin Cities are also a major center for graphic arts, electronics and ship-ping. Other major industries include machinery and metal fabricating, lumber, textiles, wearing apparel, paper and chemicals.

Excellent transportation facilities make the Twin Cities easily accessible. Eight passenger trains serve the metropolis from downtown terminals; seven airlines operate from the Wold-Chamberlain International Airport, and modern highways converge at the Twin Cities from all directions.

To help the V.F.W. formulate dynamic and effective policies for the forthcoming year, and to enjoy the vacation of a lifetime, attend the 63rd National Convention there, August 10-17. [The End]

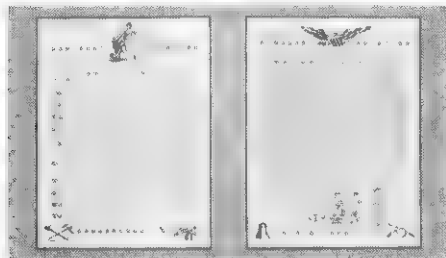
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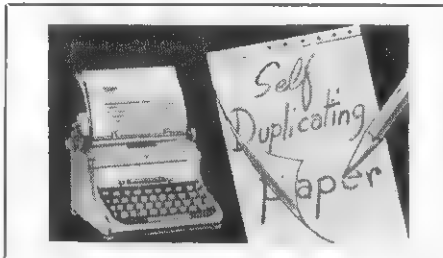
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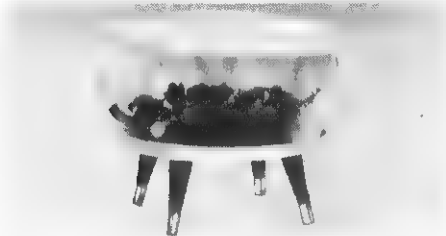
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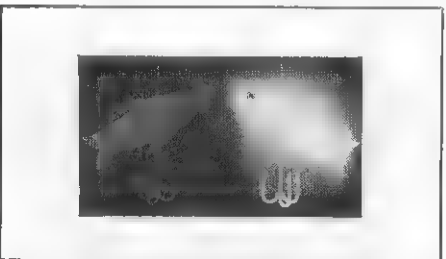
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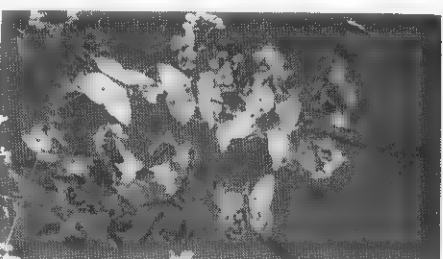
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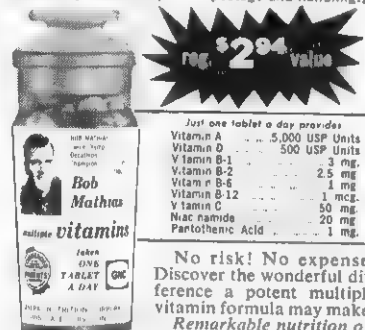
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CLAY PIGEON'S COMEBACK

(Continued from page 9)

We taxied onto the runway and Lt. Elkins began his final pre-flight test. The engines roared in lusty defiance. After a few seconds of vibrations at a standstill, our pilot gunned the engines and released the brakes. The great bird trundled down the runway. As she began her slow, reluctant lift into the air, I felt myself trembling and my breath caught in my throat. This was my first flight since the ill-fated Holland deal. It was to be my personal test of fitness.

Gliding smoothly in the air, the plane lifted her nose and seemed to spread her wings as proud as a peacock regaining dignity and grace. Lt. Elkins turned around and with a look of surprise yelled to me, "What do you know—it does fly!" A booming laugh followed. Lt. McKinnon and Sergeant Aiello joined him in laughter. I smirked at first, then, slowly, as I felt my nerves relax. I also broke into laughter—a warm and gusty laughter. From that moment on, I knew we were going to be a happy and close-knit crew.

The following two months found our skytrains flying daily sorties from England to France carrying vital supplies for our ground forces. On our return trips, we converted into hospital ships and evacuated the wounded.

"Clay Pigeon II" gallantly performed her lion's share. There were days, however, where she had to take time out. Her age was beginning to show and lady luck seemed to ignore us. Within a two-week period she fell victim to five flat tires. One day while we were towing a glider at take-off the nylon rope snapped and flung back into our rudder, ripping it to shreds. Another day while towing a glider in flight, a small metal fairing flew off one of our wings. When we landed the glider pilot said that it flew right back at him; he thought our plane was falling apart. I had my hands full to prevent just that.

By the beginning of March, 1945, our Troop Carrier Wing moved to France. Our Allied Armies raced across France and drove the Germans right into their homeland. I sensed that we were sent to France for a purpose—another airborne assault!

On March 18, I began a 1000-hour inspection of the plane. This was a major operation which included the changing of both engines—the first such inspection in our squadron. That night, Captain Butler informed me that I had to have her ready by tomorrow—a glider airborne invasion was coming up.

We all knew that our Armies were bogged down at the Rhine River and the Germans were determined to hold at all costs. An airborne assault over the Rhine was inevitable!

The joy of flying was one thing—flying into combat again was another! Now came the supreme test. My mind tried to fight off the memory of my first "Clay Pigeon"—the fire, the bail-out, the long week behind enemy lines. Gritting my teeth, I applied and absorbed myself to the task at hand—trying not to think.

March 24, 1945, was the day. We were to tow two gliders loaded with airborne infantry over the Rhine at Wesel, Germany—the first dual glider-tow in combat history!

Take-off was at 0823 and I prayed to God that I would come back. Fields of France now were far behind. The string of C-47's seemingly stretched into infinity. An ominous roar filled the skies as we droned toward Germany. Lt. Elkins instructed me to flash the red Aldis lamp ten-minute warning signal to the pilots of our two gliders. Getting into position on top of a stool so that I could look out the plexiglass dome I flashed the lamp. The two gliders were bucking and straining at the nylon ropes as cross-winds and prop-wash tossed them from side to side.

Ten minutes to go . . . a lifetime . . . I felt the tension and my nerves grew taut. Minutes dwindled to six . . . to five . . . and there it was!—the Rhine River. It lay there, seemingly coiled like a rattler, ready to strike! The terrific barrage that intelligence told us to expect on the other side made my stomach curl into knots.

Suddenly, through the blanket of smoke and haze, I saw two of our ships in the lead formation in flames. Life went out of the planes as they pointed their noses downward, spinning and twisting in death's throes. I bit my lip and winced as I thought of my buddies in those planes.

It was then that I thought of the piece of armor plate that I had hoarded on board ship. I had taken that piece of steel off of a German aircraft at a captured airfield. I placed it under the stool and resumed my position. A C-47 is an unarmed and unarmored ship and the name of my plane was exactly what they were—clay pigeons. Besides, I didn't feel like getting it underneath.

A mile to go now . . . any second . . . the sweat under my flak-helmet slowly trickled down my face. Little drums of fear were pounding the pit of my stomach, pushing up toward my throat.

Then, all hell broke loose—flak! I saw the angry black puffs first. Then the flak bursts were moving in closer. The Germans weren't just watching us go by. Hell no! They were pushing up lead aplenty. There was no chance for evasion. We flew on, never wavering. The mission was not to try for escape but to reach the drop-zone and get home.

Shifting my feet uneasily and eyeing the calamitous sky, I saw a flak burst snap one of our tow lines. The loosed glider drifted away. I yelled to inform our pilot. He didn't even hear me. With deadly precision, ignoring and making no concession to the mortal curtain of German fire, we droned onward.

Then a thundering crash was heard as a shell went off directly beneath the plane. "Clay Pigeon II" reared like a wounded animal. Pieces of steel ripped through the fuselage. "We're hit," I screamed. Shell after shell exploded all around us. A flak burst exploded with a deafening roar near one of our wings, flinging the plane over on her side. Steel-nerved Lt. Elkins battled the controls to keep her level. The skytrain shuddered and vibrated helplessly before the fierce onslaught. Streams of bullets, buzzing like angry hornets, ripped through the tail and fuselage. In the next

moment I felt the stool jarred from under me and I came hurtling to the floor. The German armor plate had stopped a German bullet!

My heart was pounding. I grasped the handle of my chute in readiness, sensing the same occurrence as in Holland. I prayed again.

"There's the DZ," Lt. Elkins' voice boomed. "Did the other glider cut loose yet?"

I climbed on the stool again and yelled back, "He's still on!" We kept going in a circle, hoping the glider would cut loose, exposing ourselves for extra death-dealing seconds. We were being mauled and hammered. "Clay Pigeon II" was struggling and battling for life.

"We can't wait any longer," cried our pilot and he yanked the manual tow release.

"He's loose," I yelled. "Let's get out of here."

The incredibly long minutes of holding the airplane straight and steady was over. Lt. Elkins yanked the wheel hard over, tramped on the rudder pedal, and pushed the throttles forward. The plane staggered forward with desperate strength; the engines howled, wide open. It was plainly visible that she was badly hurt.

"Come on, baby," I urged, "Don't quit on us now."

The relentless firing continued. Another burst jolted our aircraft. From the radio compartment, we heard Sergeant Aiello yell, "Fire!"

My eyes visioned a massive, terrifying flare-up of high octane gasoline. It was my first plane all over again. Trembling, I turned around. But it was a slow fire and I saw Joe Aiello grab an extinguisher and with single-minded purpose, put out the fire. My breathing eased. I cleared the sweat from my eyes and yelled back, "Good boy, Joe."

We flew over the Rhine. It looked good this time. The din and smoke of battle were clearing now. Even the thundering of the two struggling engines seemed like a blanket of silence after the constant hammering of guns, and flak bursts.

As we limped for home, I took stock of the situation. Our right engine showered sparks into the air. The left engine trailed a dirty smear of oil and smoke across the sky. Our hydraulic system was shot, a trim-tab was blown off, gaping holes dotted the plane's structure—and now our

gas was low. It was a miracle that the plane remained airborne. "Clay Pigeon II" was flying crazily—but she was flying!

I realized that we were far from home for Elkins was shouting that the rudder wasn't responding to control. I wheeled about and scampered to the tail section to check the cables. The flashlight soon showed a broken control cable. By splicing a wrench into the break, I made an emergency repair job.

Keeping our fingers crossed and hoping the engines wouldn't give out, we headed for home. It had been a long trip—longest in Troop Carrier history—a round trip of more than 500 miles requiring about five hours of flying time at the rate prescribed by field orders. Towing gliders at little more than 100 miles per hour made gasoline consumption a major problem. From an original tank-load of 700 gallons, we had only about 40 gallons left!

The plane was vibrating badly. She began floundering and seemed about ready to give up. I quickly began to jettison all unnecessary equipment.

"We're home, boys," shouted Lt. McKinnon as we sighted our base. He tried to lower our landing gear, but I told him that we had no hydraulic pressure. I tried the hand-pump, but still no pressure. "We'll have to crash land," he howled.

Suddenly I saw Elkins push the wheel violently forward and then it came to me that he was going to try to jerk the landing gear down. I desperately started to pump the hand-pump, hoping to get any residue of pressure. The next instant found my heart in my mouth as Elkins whipped the wheel back to pull out of our dive. The landing gear slammed down and the green light indicated it was locked.

The fuel gauge-indicator now was fluctuating at the empty mark. Elkins radioed for permission to come straight in. The plane was acting in a very peculiar manner. On final approach for our landing, the skytrain skidded around like a beserk bird. Elkins fought it onto the runway, and with a sigh of relief, set her on the ground. He tried to brake her as I kept pumping. The great wounded bird skidded shrieking. With a final metallic groan, the plane settled and lay still on the far side of the field, her wing straddling a tree!

Then there was silence which was quickly shattered by a raucous yell: "We made it!" We exploded with ecstasy, and poured from the plane, whooping and shouting. We shook each other's hands, slamming each other on the back. The old workhorse did it—and I proved to myself that I could come back, I had regained my self-confidence and self-respect!

That was the last flight for "Clay Pigeon II." The crippling wounds, the gallant flight, the ravage of time, was too much for her. Wiping a nostalgic tear from my eye, I watched her carried off to be used for spare parts. But she went down fighting. I guess she showed those young'uns a thing or two.

Captain Butler grounded me once again. Before I could receive another plane the war in Europe was over.

I did receive a third plane. I was to crew her for our flight home, and I hasten to add it was *not* named "Clay Pigeon III." I finally was convinced that clay pigeons are made to be shot at—and they are seldom missed. I know! [The End]



The 100,000th member of the V.F.W. Department of Pennsylvania, James F. Clarke, Pittsburgh, (right) receives his 1962 membership card from Department Commander John T. Radko (second from left). Looking on are 29th Dist. Commander John N. Harper, (left) and Allegheny County Council Commander Chester Novosielski.

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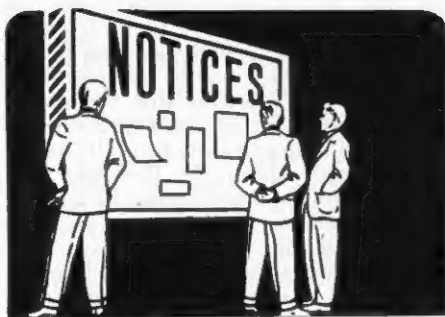
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To avoid errors, material submitted for publication in this column should be either printed or typed.

ARMY

1st Engr. Special Brig.—Would like to contact organizations of this group or other amphibious engineers organizations.—Lt. Col. Lochlin W. Caffey, Dept. of Mathematics, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.

9th Inf. Div.—In order to establish service-connected claim, would like to hear from anyone recalling my treatment for a skin condition in 1945 at the dispensary in Augsburg, Germany.—Raymond Jameson, 121 Clay St., Central Falls, R. I.

10th Truck Motor Btry. (WWI)—Would like to locate Charles H. Rumpy, formerly of Edina, Mo.—Cona Larson, 1301 S. W. Jefferson, Apt. 179, Peoria, Ill.

12th Ry. Engr., Co. E (WWI)—Seeking whereabouts of German prisoner I captured on Somme front while attached to British 6th Army. He had lived in Texas, near my home in Taylor.—William A. Hammond, 4958 Vincent Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

26th Inf., 1st Div., Co. I (1942-44)—In order to establish claim, would like to hear from anyone who remembers my leg injury near Mature, N. Africa.—Marshall B. Vancour, 22 Central Ave., Apt. 1, Ilion, N. Y.

35th Inf. Reg., Hdqrs. Co., Troop Lightning Recon. Sqd., (Korea)—In order to establish claim, would like to have statements from men serving with me.—Hubert (Lou) P. Romero, R. R. 1, Box 90, New Iberia, La.

66th Reg. CAC, Btry. E.—Would like to hear from buddies who served with me.—Nathan J. Barrows, 570 Mill St., Feeding Hills, Mass.

84th Armd. Med. Bn., Co. A.—Would like to hear from those who served with me.—Donald E. Kenney, 620 - 8th Ave., W., Williston, N. Dak.

102nd Inf. Reg., Co. F.—Would like to hear from buddies who served on Bora Bora, especially Sgt. Main, Jim Cotham, Chipman, Norwood, Palmer, Gilstrap, Banchemo, Smith, White, Katz, Zandree, Welch and Hawes Burton.—Ellsworth Dwyer, 347 Dorchester Ave., Waterbury, Conn.

119th Med. Bn., 44th Div., Co. A.—Anyone knowing whereabouts of Capt. Schastkey who was stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1913, please write.—Lloyd L. Boatwright, Service Officer, 325 Fair Park, Henderson, Texas.

129th Inf., Co. H.—Would like to contact the ammo runner with shattered arm from unit on our right whom I assisted from the field Oct. 14, 1918, near the Meuse River—Clem Felix, Prior Lake, Minn.

156th Inf., Co. M.—Would like to contact John Link.—Noian Usie, R. R. 2, Box 282, Houma, La.

175th Engr., Co. E (May-July 1944)—In order to establish claim for head injury caused by falling bridge span in Italy, please send affidavits to that effect.—Frank (Pop) Zaworski, 3125 S. 49th Ave., Cicero 50, Ill.

185th Inf., 40th Div., Co. B.—Need biographical sketch of all persons and other biographical information regarding company.—Lee G. Brown, P. O. Box 1101, Hanford, Calif.

302nd Field Remount Sqd. (WWI)—Would like to hear from former buddies.—Michael Martell, 3509 - 44th Ave., S., Minneapolis 6, Minn.

325th Engr. Combat Bn., 100th Inf. Div., H&S Co.—To establish service-connected claim, would like to hear from buddies who served overseas with me.—Jess W. Snell, 207 N. Edgewood Dr., Dothan, Ala.

327th Inf. Reg., 101st AB Div.—To establish claim, would like to hear from men serving with me in 1945.—Leonard Baker, Millstone, Ky.

378th Sqd., 392nd Bomb Gp.—Would like to hear from former buddies.—TSgt James E. Childers, 223 Orange, Denver 20, Colo.

706th & 854th Bomb Sqds., 446th, 464th & 491st Bomb Gps.—Would like to hear from anyone who remembers back injury I received from truck leaving road while on maneuvers from Lowry Field, Colo., and of my visits to 231st Station Hospital in England.—Harold (Joe) Gould, 454 N. Second St., Steelton, Pa.

712th Ry. T.R.O.B. (Korea)—Anyone knowing whereabouts of William C. Sims, formerly of Baltimore, Md., write.—Edward R. Cavanaugh, 501 Corey Ave., Bradock, Pa.

734th Ry. Opn. Bn., Co. C.—Those who recall train accident near Leige, Belgium, on Feb. 18, 1945, please write. Carroll T. Ashley was injured when pusher engine struck train from West Achen, Germany.—Marion A. Venturini, Assistant Commissioner, State Veterans Affairs Commission, P.O. Box 131, Jackson, Miss.

785th Engr., 5th Army.—Would like to locate John Cardonia, formerly of Calif.—Eugene Wolofski, 6755 Faust Ave., Detroit 28, Mich.

895th Guard Sqd.—Would like to hear from former buddies.—Hershey K. Zimmerman, Jr., R. R. 1, Ronks, Pa.

3818 Q.M. Gas Supply.—Would like to hear from Lt. Arnold L. Dean, formerly of Calif.—Floyd Spaulding, Box 97, Brooklyn, Ind.

4756 Field Maint. Sqd., 4750 Fighter Gp., Ground Power Sec.—Would like to hear from S/Sgt. Arthur R. Van Wagner—William H. Chase, 69 Purchase St., Newburyport, Mass.

S.A.T.C. Engr., Co. F (WWI)—For research purposes, would like to contact Scott Boorman—John J. Stemler, 111 S. Adams Ave., Berlin, Wis.

Information.—Would like to hear from buddies in the old 240th C.A., B Btry., Fort Hancock, N. J. and Iceland. Old 25th C.A.C. to 448 (AAA) from 1942-44 in Wales and the 386th (AAA) in France.—Russell Joyce, 47 Chapel St., Portland 3, Maine.

Information.—Need to contact Joseph Newton Quigley for research purposes.—Maj. Roy H. Stewart, USAF, Box 853, 303rd Air Refueling Sqd., APO 856, New York, N. Y.

Information.—Would like to hear from Georgia volunteers who came home on USS Buford—B. L. Tate, 480 E. 13th St., Beaumont, Calif.

NAVY

CBMU (540) CBMU (551), Co. C.—To establish claim, would like to hear from anyone remembering my back injury or hospitalization resulting from unloading accident in Bermuda (1952-54).—Raymond E. Nagell, 120 Crescent St., Rutland, Vt.

LCS Flotilla #4.—Would like to hear from those who served on picket line at Okinawa, 1945, with me.—William R. Christman, 118 Reid St., Elizabeth, N. J.

USS Babitt.—Would like to contact Norman Lynn Riddle, discharged in 1946. Former address Burbank, Calif.—Bill Marsh, Jr., Seneca Falls, N. Y.

USS Eberle (DD-430) (1941-42)—Would like to contact John D. Hoover formerly of Tenn.—Clyde P. Heavner, P. O. Box 134, Lincolnton, N. C.

USS Mahang.—Would like to hear from buddies who served with me in 1918—Thomas J. Murphy, 609 N. Horne St., Oceanside, Calif.



During the last Christmas season Post 9450, Tokyo, Japan, contributed to charity fund campaigns sponsored by two Japanese newspapers. The Post made donations to the "Ears for the Deaf" fund (Japan Times) and the "Christmas Cheer" fund (Asahi Evening News) to aid orphans and needy families. Pictured, left to right, at the presentation ceremony at the Japan Times are: V.F.W. National Deputy Inspector General Charles E. Joseph, Tsugi Shirashi, newspaper secretary; Post Adjutant Howard C. Davis, Post Commander Paul E. Miller and Post Junior Vice Commander Edward M. Stewart.

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Reunions

Because of publication closing date schedules, V.F.W. Magazine must receive notices of forthcoming reunions at least 90 days in advance of the actual reunion dates. To avoid errors, all material should be either printed plainly or typed. These notices are published free of charge as space conditions permit.

ARMY

1st Cav. Div.—Aug. 31-Sept. 2, Brown Hotel, Louisville, Ky. Write Alfred E. Stevens, 1416 June St., N. E., Albuquerque, N. Mex.

2nd Armd. Div.—Aug. 3-5; Hotel Statler Hilton, Buffalo, N. Y. Write Richard J. Gavagan, 639 Terrace Blvd., Depew, N. Y.

5th Engr Reg.—1962 or 1963 summer. Those interested write Charles R. Lewis, 412 Oneida St., Sayre, Pa.

5th Inf. Div. (WWI-WWI)—Sept 1-3, Akron, Ohio. Write Elmer Taylor, 1215-18th St., S. W., Akron 14, Ohio.

17th AB Div.—Aug. 10-12, Henry Hudson Hotel, New York City, N. Y. Write Victor Mittleman, 123 Milrose Ave., E. Lansdowne, Pa.

21st Engr. 2nd Bn.—June 23-24, Hotel Casey, Scranton, Pa. Write Richard Langford, Factoryville, Pa.

37th Ord., M.M. Co.—Those interested write Tony Gales, 218 Radcliffe St., Pittsburgh 4, Pa.

51st Med. Bn.—June 2-3, Middletown, Pa. Write Wayne H. Lebo, 7 Penrose St., Harrisburg, Pa.

51st Pioneer Inf. (WWI)—Sept. 8-9, American Legion Hall, New Paltz, N. Y. Write Otto Rauch, 156 Adams St., Delmar, N. Y.

56th Pioneer Inf. (WWI)—Aug. 3-5, Valley Forge Hotel, Norristown, Pa. Write Edw. A. Bedlow, 105 E. Main St., Norristown, Pa.

67th Sig. Bn., Co. A—July 7, Greene, N. Y. Write Burr Phelps, P. O. Box 523, Greene, N. Y.

77th F.A. Btry. D.—July 28-29, American Legion Hall, Corsicana, Texas. Write Jim Collins, N.W. Apts., Apt. 3A, Corsicana, Texas.

79th Sig. Co., 79th Div.—May 18-20, Hotel New Yorker, New York City, N. Y. Write Louis R. Berke, Grant Town, W. Va.

82nd AB Div.—July 5-7, Statler-Hilton Hotel Boston, Mass. Write Carl L. Davis, 159 Gibson Ave., Mansfield, Ohio.

91st Chemical Mortar Co.—Sept. 1-2, Sunset Motel, Walnut, Ill. Write Rodney Jacobson, R. R. 4, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

96th Inf. Div.—July 28-28, Baker Hotel, Dallas, Tex.—Write R. Klassen, R. R. 5, Kankakee, Ill.

101st AB Div.—Aug. 20-25, Ben Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa. Write Wallace W. Dazkowski, 4447 E. Thompson St., Philadelphia, Pa.

107th (AAA) AW Bn., Btry. B—Aug. 10-11, Clinton, S. C. Write Harvey L. Foster, 602 N. Adair St., Clinton, S. C.

114th Gen. Hosp.—Sept. 1-3, Philadelphia, Pa. Write Edw. Schoen, 475 Rose Valley Rd., Southampton, Pa.

115th Inf., 29th Div., Co. A—June 30, Johnstown, Pa., Write John F. Hart, R. R. 1, Box 49, Johnstown, Pa.

149th Inf., 88th Div.—July 21, National Guard Armory, St. Matthews (Louisville), Ky. Write Harold F. Weigel, 4606 St. Rita Dr., Louisville 19, Ky.

157th Gen. Hosp.—July 14, Phoenixville, Pa. Write Eual P. Stewart, R. R. 1, Egypt Rd., Phoenixville, Pa.

190th F. A. Gp.—July 27-29, Bellefonte, Pa. Write Mel Sober, P. O. Box 361, Sunbury, Pa.

206th C.A.C. (AA)—Sept. 1-2, Lafayette Hotel, Little Rock, Ark. Write Dewey W. Gartrell, P. O. Box 211, Sweet Home, Ark.

259th Inf., 65th Div., Med. Det.—Those interested write Harry A. (Red) Crawford, 1019 Terry Ave., Seattle 4, Wash.

273rd F. A. Bn.—Aug. 18-19, Hotel Warden, Fort Dodge, Iowa. Write Jack R. Kirby, 2335 N. Pierce, Springfield, Mo.

302nd Inf., Co. L—June 22-24, Summitt Hotel, Uniontown, Pa. Write Charles C. Misner, 333 Knox St., Westerville, Ohio.

313th Ammo Train, 88th Div., Co. D. (WWI)—June 8-10, Pathfinder Hotel, Fremont, Nebr. Write Mrs. Clark Harris, Idana, Kans.

325th Fighter Gp.—June 15-17, Wildwood, N. J. Write Stanley L. Wilson, Zellenople, Pa.

329th Inf., Co. G (WWI)—Aug. 6, American Legion Home City Park, Bowling Green, Ohio. Write Leon G. Burson, Milton Center, Ohio.

337th Inf., 85th Div., Hdqrs. Co.—July 27-29, Town & Country Motor Hotel, Cuyahoga Falls, (Akron) Ohio. Write Bill Mitchell, 2332-21st St., S. W., Akron 14, Ohio.

342nd Inf., Co. D.—June 22-24, Morrison Hotel, 79th W. Madison St., Chicago 2, Ill. Write Robert O. Wareheim, Jr., 861 Jerry's Drive, Ellicott City, Md.

347th F. A. Bn., 81st Div., Hdqrs. Btry.—June 28-July 1, Capitol Park Inn, Nashville, Tenn. Write Dale Marchbanks, 423 Depot St., Oswego, Kans.

354th Fighter Gp.—Late Sept., Myrtle Beach, S. C. Those interested write Arthur F. Brown, 25 Richland Rd., Wellesley, Mass.

359th AAA SL Bn.—Aug. 18-19, Binghampton, N. Y. Write Boyd Newell, 406 Saratoga Dr., Pittsburgh 38, Pa.

360th Engr. General Service Reg.—June 9, Jacktown Hotel, Marianna, Pa. Write Ed. Ziats, P. O. Box 257, Marianna, Pa.

388th Bomb. Gp.—July 6-8, Gratiot Inn, Port Huron, Mich. Write Edward J. Huntzinger, 863 Maple St., Ferrysburg, Ohio.

437th Troop Carrier Gp.—Aug. 17-19, Hotel

Washington, Washington, D. C. Write Sid Rice, 139 Superior St., Michigan City, Ind.

444th Bomb Sqd., 320th Bomb Gp.—Aug. 3-4, V.F.W. Post Home Mounds, Ill. Write Carl Alst, Mound City, Ill.

465th F.A. Bn., Btry. B (Jan., 1952-Mar., 1953)—Those interested write Charles R. Tucker, R. R. 1, Satanta, Kans.

517th Ord., H.M.F.A.—Aug. 12, Northernaire Motel, Hwy. 61 & 36, St. Paul, Minn. Write Leo A. Tull, 936 Kohlman Lane, St. Paul 9, Minn.

609th Tank Dest. Bn.—Sept., Atlantic City, N. J. Write Don A. Vogt, P. O. Box 142, Geneva, N. Y.

615th O.B.A.M. Bn.—Sept. 22, Ann Arbor, Mich. Write James D. Strong, 111 Spring St., Ann Arbor, Mich.

753rd & 765th Ry. Bns.—June 16-17, Moose Club, Bucyrus, Ohio. Write Charlie Seyler, P. O. Box 55, Bucyrus, Ohio.

773rd Tank Dest. Bn.—Aug. 24-25, Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa. Write E. H. McClelland, 4384 W. 182nd St., Cleveland 35, Ohio.

817th Tank Dest. Bn.—June 1-2, Hotel Lafayette, Buffalo, N. Y. Write Ted Warner, 280 Hastings Ave., Buffalo 15, N. Y.

830th Engr. Avn. Bn.—Aug. 10-12, Nationwide Inn, Columbus, Ohio. Write James G. Scott, 341 Northridge Rd., Circleville, Ohio.

871st Ordn. Unit—July 1, Silver Park, Alliance, Ohio. Write Sam Terranova, 7051 Canal Rd., Cleveland 25, Ohio.

907th Ord. Heavy Automotive Maint. Co.—Aug. 11, 2463 Zion Rd., Rives Junction, Mich. Write A. E. Okoniewski, 2463 Zion Rd. Rives Junction, Mich.

928th Sig. Bn.—Aug. 3-5, American Hotel, Allentown, Pa. Write Dominic Piscitelli, 528 E. 20th St., Northampton, Pa.

959th Air Base Security Bn.—Aug. 5, Columbus, Wis. Write Ed Parpart, R. R. 2, Columbus, Wis.

American Balloon Corps (WWI)—Sept. 12-15, Congress Hotel, Portland, Oreg. Write Fred Myers, 1831 N. Ainsworth St., Portland 17, Oreg.

AAF Langford (North Ireland)—June or July. Those interested write S. C. "Doc" Ledbetter, 1015 Hibbard, Detroit 14, Mich.

Americal Ord. Assoc.—Aug. 9-12, Ritz Carlton Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J. Write Al DeCristofer, 514 Vineyard Dr., Collingswood, N.J.

Polar Bears & 310th Engrs.—May 28-30, Pick-Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit, Mich.—Michael J. MacCalla, Polar Bear Assn., 151 West Jefferson Ave., Detroit 26, Mich.

NAVY

4th Marine Amph. Tractor Bn.—Aug. 17-19, Cleveland, Ohio. Write John Benedict, R. R. 2, Beloit, Ohio.

4th Marine Div.—June 28-30, Penn Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa. Write John H. Crisp, 2902 Princeton Ave., Philadelphia 49, Pa.

80th NCB—June 1-3, Jefferson Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J. Write Charles E. Morrison, 54 Clinton Ave., Springfield, N. J.

43rd NCB—Aug. 11-12, Washington, D. C. Write Thomas A. Gifford, 100 Ives St., Waterbury 4, Conn.

52nd NCB—Aug. 3-5, Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas. Write C. E. Brock, 402 Loper St., Houston 17, Texas.

93rd NCB—Aug. 30-Sept. 1, Detroit Leland Hotel, Detroit, Mich. Write William Wolf, 15860 Faircrest, Detroit 5, Mich.

79th NCB—July 27-29, Seattle, Wash. Write Dick Fuller, 2733 N.E. 143rd St., Seattle 55, Wash.

USS Ancon—May 26-27, Driftwood Inn, R. R. 28, Falmouth (Cape Cod) Mass. Write Victor Kester, 297 Palmer Ave., Falmouth, Mass.

USS Ganymede (AK-104)—July 29, 618 W. South St., Woodstock, Ill. Write Clarence Ohlrich, 618 South St., Woodstock, Ill.

USS Gustafson (DE-182)—Aug. 4-5, Myerstown, Pa. Write D. M. Gladson, 2336 St. Paul, Indianapolis 3, Ind.

USS South Dakota (BB-57)—Those interested write Richard G. Cervenka, 4754 S. Laporte Ave., Chicago 38, Ill.

USS Vestal (AR-4) (1941-45)—Those interested write Joseph Paul Carroll, One W. 13th St., Frederick, Md.

USS LST (981)—July 7, Hotel Touraine, Boston, Mass. Write Bud Flanagan, 11 Patten St., Boston 30, Mass.



School patrol-women of Pascagoula, Miss., were recently presented raincoats, hats and boots by Post 3373 as a part of its community service program. Police-woman Mrs. D. A. Whitaker here accepts her coat from Post Commander H. R. Boyd (left). Looking on are, left to right, Police Chief E. E. Blakeney, Patrolman Bill Pope and Post Public Relations Officer Howard Seaton.

MEN PAST 40

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Bury Him Right

A grave digger, thinking of the quarrel he had just had with his wife, dug so intensely and deeply that he suddenly discovered he was down so far he couldn't get out. Night was falling, and he began to yell for help. A passerby heard his cry and ran into the cemetery to investigate.

The grave digger looked up gratefully, and said: "Help me out, please. It's cold down here."

Astonished, the passerby paused for a moment, and then picked up a shovel and began shoveling dirt into the hole. "No wonder you're cold," he said. "There's no dirt on you."

—Parade

Just Plain Mean

An insurance agent writing a policy for a cowpuncher asked if he'd ever had any accidents.

"No," replied the cowpuncher, "but a bronc kicked me a couple of times and a rattlesnake bit me."

"Don't you call those accidents?" the agent asked.

"No," the cowboy replied. "They did it on purpose."

—Healthways

Standard Procedure

The Army major was in charge of instructing a group of soldiers on the proper way to handle Army mail. At one point he demonstrated a rotary lock used to protect registered mail shipments.

"But what if the key gets lost?" one of the students asked.

"In that case," the major replied, "the best thing is to remove your hat and blow your head off. That would be much easier than trying to explain to the Army what became of the key."

—Guild News, K.C., Mo.

Welfare Child

A small boy asked his father if he had any work he could do around the house to replenish his finances. The father assured him that he could think of nothing.

"Then," suggested the modern child, "how about putting me on relief?"

—American Mercury

Proper Punishment

A little old lady from the East was visiting in Arizona for the first time, right smack in the middle of the hunting season. Someone asked her what she thought of the West.

"Well," she said, "I was very surprised to see so many people carrying guns. But I must admit you do have some sensible laws that I didn't expect."

"What law is that, Auntie?" she was asked.

"This business of making all of the drunks wear red hats."

—True

Would Do Wonders

"Whenever I enter this workshop," announced the progressive employer, "I want to see every man performing his task cheerfully. I shall be glad to receive suggestions from the staff as to how that can be brought about." Next day he found this response in the suggestion box: "Take the rubber heels off your shoes."

—Winner, London



Super Salesman

The telephone rang in the real estate office and a soft feminine voice asked: "Do you sell maternity clothes?"

Without a pause the salesman replied: "No madam, but could we interest you in a larger house?"

—Exchange

Something in Common

Hungry and exhausted, the hunter dropped his rifle, stumbled forward and threw his arms around the man who had just emerged from a clump of trees.

"Thank heaven," he cried with relief. "Rescued at last! I've been lost for two days."

"Oh, no!" cried the other, "I've been lost for a week."

—Tit-Bits, London

Had to Happen

The employee's pay envelope, through error, contained a blank check.

"Just as I thought," he said gloomily, handing it to his wife, "my deductions have finally caught up with my salary."

—Healthways

It's Rougher on Pop

In the supermarket a man was pushing a cart which contained a screaming, yelling, bellowing baby. The gentleman kept repeating softly, "Don't get excited, Albert; don't scream, Albert; don't yell, Albert; keep calm, Albert." A woman standing next to him said, "You certainly are to be commended for trying so hard to soothe your son Albert." The man looked at her and said, "Lady, I'm Albert."

—Quote





Directions: Water it sparingly and America's perennial favorite, 7 Crown, will blossom into Springtime's smoothest-sipping drink. Try it. For best results, Say Seagram's and be Sure.